Teixeira (J.)

A CONTINVATION OF THE LAMENTABLE AND ADMIRABLE ADVENTVRES OF DOM SEBASTIAN KING OF PORTVGALE.

With a declaration of all his time *employed ſince the battell in Africke* againſt the Infidels 1578. vntill *this preſent yeare* 1603.

LONDON
Printed for *Iames Shaw*, and are to be ſold at his ſhop neare Ludgate.
1603.

A

CONTINUATION

BRITISH MUSEUM

LONDON

The Epistle to the Reader.

Gentle Reader, in the entrance of this Discourse which followes, you shall find three letters written by an auncient man called Doctor Texere *a Portugal, directed to a Bishop this fathers verie friend, which I haue here compiled and expressed among other proofes to verifie the infortunate accidents this disasterous King hath sustained, since he was taken prisoner by the great Duke of Tuscane, vntill the last day of the yeare past 1601. You may also find within this Pamphlet two Letters translated: one written by* D. Raimond Marqueti, *a Knight of the order of* S. Iohn, *borne in Messina in Sicile to* Dom Sebastian; *the other sent from the said King to* D. Prospero Baracco, *dwelling in Padua. By the two last letters it will euidently appeare vnto you, that the prisoner detained now in Naples, is not that* Marco Tullio Catizone, *whom the Spaniards in their libels haue so falsly proclaimed; but the very true King of Portugale* Dom Sebastian. *Immediatly after these letters followeth a discourse, in the beginning whereof there is a Preface written by father* Texere, *manifesting the naturall disposition of Portugals, and witnessing how constantly they addresse themselues in loyaltie towards their Gouernours that raigne ouer them, according to the sincere word of God, and the vnfallible rules of honour.*

You may also behold a most ample declaration, about the

end of this discourse, ministring foure seuerall points, worthie the reading and obseruing; to proue vnto you assuredly, that the prisoner for whom we trauell so industriously with perseuerance, is the true and lawfull King of Portugale Dom Sebastian, *whom God of his diuine mercie will (I trust) restore to his former Crowne and dignitie, for the good and propagation of the peace and welfare of all Christendon: which the eternall God effect, if it be his blessed will. Amen. The 26. of Feb. An. 1602.*

A Letter ſent from father Fr. Ioseph Texere *to a Biſhop.*

Poſt acceptã benedictionem. I wrote to your reuerend Lordſhip frõ Paris, to ſignifie vnto you the cauſe of my returne from Lions, where I receiued a letter frõ your L. dated the 20. of March. In the which you gaue me in charge that if I had occaſion to trauell into Italy, I ſhould giue you ſpeciall intelligence of all the occurrents that ſhould be preſented to my vnderſtanding in my iourney: the 16. of Aprill in the ſame yeare I departed from Paris, towards theſe parts, paſſing through Campaigne: the very firſt day the gout began to aſſaile me, and ceaſſed not, but accompanied me to Chalons, which was wedneſday being holyday; where I remained in my couent vntill the wedneſday after Eaſter.

The ſame day, after dinner (hauing vrgent occaſion) I was compelled by meanes of my ſickneſſe to vſe the benefite of a coach, and came the Friday following to Nance. On Saterday following I vndertooke to walke faire and ſoftly with much paine, to viſit his Highneſſe, and the Ladie ſiſter to the King, and her husband, the Cardinall, the Count of Vaudemont, and the Princeſſe his ſiſter. Beleeue me I cannot expreſſe in words the conſolation I conceiued, in beholding the inſeparable bond of loue and amitie, wherein theſe noble Princes ſeemed to be vnited and conformed: from whom like one loaden and charged with honourable benefits, giftes, graces, and fauours, I departed to Baſil on munday being the ſeuenth of May. Notwithſtanding the great confort my entertainement gaue me occaſion of, yet bitter ſpell of diſcontentment wounded me inwardly; for that the friday before, I had particular intelligence by the poſt, that the Calabrian, the falſe and counterfeit *Dom Sebaſtian*, as

they termed him, the pretended King of Portugale, was rendred into the custodie of the gouernor of Orbetelo, a towne in Tuscane bordering vpon the Mediterranian sea, being a part of the King of Spaines territories, from thence to be conueyed to the Viceroy of Naples: so swift were those bloudie Spaniards in their cruel expeditions. The poore Prince departed from that towne the 13 of Aprill, at eleuen of the clocke at night, passing by Siene the foure and twentieth, and was deliuered the sixe and twentieth. The manner of diuulging these newes, was by intelligence that came to Nance by Milan in lesse then eight dayes. The eleuenth of May I came to Basill: the thirteenth I entred Soleurre, where becausse I was ill at ease, *Monsieur de Vic* (your Lordships deare friend) and worthie Ambassadour of his most Christian Maiestie in affaires to the Swissers and Grisons, inforced me to stay and repose my selfe with him, vntill the sixteenth day: wherehence after the fruition of infinite courtesies I departed, passing by the Swissers, Grisons, Valtoline, and Valcamonica, I entred into Italy: the first towne I lodged in was Bresse, the next Verona, Vicence, Padua. The second of Iune I came to Venice, where without delay I hasted to visit *Monsieur Villiers* Ambassador of his excellent Maiestie. This noble gentleman I found in all respects as your Lordship had commended him to me, most reuerend for honour, vertue, and wisedome, as the world can iustly testifie. From thence I retired my selfe in his Gundelo to a friend of mine, an honourable gentleman, by whom with diuers other of my friends that came to see me, I was confirmed in my former knowledge, concerning the mishaps before rehearsed; vnderstanding in like maner, how grieuously the nobles and citizens of Venice, tooke the troubles of the worthie distressed King, ascribing the blame to the negligence of the Portugals, that vndertooke the managing of his libertie, into whose hands they had committed him safe and found: for as much as in those Lords presence, they seemed to acknowledge him, vnder which pretence they preased before the Senate, to signifie vnto them a truth, beseeching them to allow him some other solemnitie in proceeding, then they vse to a common or priuate person, and to respect him as a King. The

fourth

fourth day I returned to Padua: the ſeuenth I was at breake-faſt in Mantua, where I was well entertained by the reuerend and vertuous Prelate, the rare and honourable Lord Fr. *Francis Gonzaga*, Biſhop of the ſaid citie. And ſoone after I had bene in my couent, and receiued the chiefe Prelates benediction, I went to ſalute the Duke and the Ducheſſe, to whom I caried certaine letters, who receiued me with no leſſe ſhew of account then they could haue made to an Ambaſſadour that had bene employed in the moſt Chriſtian Kings affaires.

The ſelfe ſame day to accompanie this my glorious entertainement, the deſpitefull gout made a returne into my feeble limmes, and there ſoiourned with me ſeuenteene or eighteene dayes in the ſame citie. In which ſpace I drew a tree with branches, expreſſing the genealogie of the houſe of Gonzaga; wherewith the Duke ſeemed ſo well pleaſed, that he gaue me a great preſent in gratification. I proteſt I ſhould neuer haue dreamed that Mantua had bene honoured with a Prince ſo nonoble for vertue, ſo rare for honourable courteſie, ſo peereleſſe for bountie, ſo familiar in hiſtories, ſo conuerſant in languages, ſo great a louer of rare properties, ſo intire a Chriſtian. I ſifted diuers of his Court as narrowly as I might poſſibly, and I diſcouered them to be true and faithfull wel-willers to our countrey of France.

On the feaſt day of *S. Iohn Baptiſt* ſomewhat late I ſet forward in my iourney towards Ferrara through Bologne: on the eight and twentith day of the laſt moneth I came to Ferrara, being *S. Peters* eue: the next day being the feaſt day, after my morning repaſt, I went to the honourable Duke, deliuering him certaine letters, which he receiued with a ſmiling countenance, and made very faire weather to me by his honourable and courteous entertainement, ſo did likewiſe his Ducheſſe. All this while making no mention to me of the King, nor of the Calabrian, nor I to any man, the Duke and Ducheſſe ſeuerally demaunded of me what newes I heard of France or Lorayne, and ſo fleighted me off with licence to depart, ſaying, we will take another day fitter to handle theſe cauſes more at large: ſo I departed for that time. The next day following, the Duke

came into our couent of *S. Marke*, where I remained, and our Prior intreated me to beare the Prouinciall companie to entertaine his Highneſſe at the Church porch: where the Duke took notice of me, and talked with me all the way paſſing through the entrie; and at his departure ſaid, I will chooſe a more conuenient time to talke with you more at large. After breakefaſt I went to the Archbiſhop of Piſa, and deliuered him a letter frō a very friend of his, in regard wherof he did me many kind offices. And I telling him, I had vndertaken this iourney for the diſpatch of buſineſſe that concerned my order and my ſelf particularly, (for ſo was the tenor of my paſport) and to acquaint my ſelfe in the families of the Princes of Italy: after long delibetation and pauſing for the ſpace of an houre, he demaunded of me if I had not heard any ſpeech of a Calabrian, that named him ſelfe *Dom Sebaſtian* King of Portugale: to whom I anſwered, that being in the court of Lorayne, I vnderſtood by letters ſent from Milane that there was ſuch a counterfeit, and abuſer, and that therefore I would not meddle neither with him nor his affaires. And he replied vnto me, that he thought it not amiſſe for me to know what paſſed, and was done in that buſineſſe. When I found his purpoſe, I prepared my ſelfe to heare him as patiently as I could, and he very pleaſantly began this inuectiue which followeth.

This man that would be called *Dom Sebaſtian*, &c. is a Calabrian, a merchant, whoſe name is *Marco Tullio Catizone*, that hath both wife and children aliue, which haue bene compelled to come from Meſſina to go to Naples to iuſtifie the truth. And the ſame Calabrian hath had acceſſe to Portugal for matters of trafficke, where ſome religious profeſſors of our order haue perſwaded him to call and proclaime himſelfe *Dom Sebaſtian* King of Portugale: and the Monke hath burned and branded him with hote yrons, in the ſame places with the like markes that *Dom Sebaſtian* had: and the ſcarre which he carieth in his arme, was forced by a gaſh giuen of purpoſe with his owne hand, and the Monke that on his head. Beſide, when he was firſt taken he had only two crownes about him: and aſſoone as the Venetians diſcharged him, the Portugals conſulted how

they

they might imbarke him at Liuorne, and ſend him preſently into France. Wherof the great Duke being ſpeedily aduertiſed, cauſed all the paſſages to be laid betwixt Florence & the ſea coaſt, that he could eſcape no way: and ſo ſoone as he ſaw himſelf preuented and caught, he ſtraightway diſcouered his legerdemain, ſaying, that he was no longer able to endure thoſe torments and grieuous impriſonments, to maintaine ſuch fooliſh deluſions and coſinage. Preſuppoſed that before he made this confeſſion, he indented to haue his life aſſured him, which they aſcertained him of, comforting him that he ſhould not die. And after that he was detected in Naples by the preſence of his wife *Donna Paula Catizzone*, he was inſtãtly ſent into Spaine, without any violence done vnto him, and was there openly and generally ſhewed to all the word, to the end that the Portugals ſhould no longer abuſe him, and that it might be publiſhed to the world, that he was a very impoſtor, a counterfeit, and a deluder. After I heard ſo many fooliſh and groſſe abſurdities vttered ſo confidently, my very ſoule was ſo deeply plunged into extreme griefe and vexatiõ, that I was forced to craue pardõ of that reuerẽd lord, for not anſwering, being ſore perplexed: knowing aſſuredly, that that *Marco Tullio Catizzone* died in Portugale, while he indeuored the diſpatch of ſome buſineſſe the King ſent him thither about: which is euident by a letter ſent from one *D. Raimond Marqueti* a Knight dwelling in Meſſina, by whoſe meanes and perſwaſion the King ſent this *Marco* into Portugale. Which letter was ſent by *Marqueti* to Venice to haue bin deliuered to *Dom Sebaſtian*, which came to the Venetiãs hands, whereof the lords of Venice cauſed a copie to be taken, and the originall remaines in the cuſtodie of one *Conſtantine Nicoline*, citizen and inhabitant of the ſame citie, wherehẽce a tranſcript was made, which I haue about me to ſhew. This *Conſtantine* ſeeing the agents of Spaine to iuſtifie an vntruth ſo impudently without bluſhing, ſaying, that the priſoner was called *Marco Catizzone*; ſhewed this letter openly in *S. Markes* church, to ſtop and confound their malice. Which letter when they had ſeene and peruſed, they were neuer afterward ſo bold as to proſecute the matter any further, but kept ſilence. Moreouer it appeared that this priſo-

ner could not be *Marco Tullio* by another letter, written by the prisoner to *D. Prospero Bonacco*, which he shewed me in Padua, which I craued earnestly to haue deliuered me to bring with me, but I could onely obtaine a copie thereof, which I haue also in my custody. The same is likewise testified by another letter from an Italian gendeman, attending the most Christiã king. Whosoeuer is desirous to see the said letter, shal find it in the beginning of the booke, called, *Admirable aduentures, &c.* which was imprinted in France before I came from thence towards these parts. I haue set downe these proceedings in writing to your Lordship, to acquaint you with the forgerie and deuises of those detractors, called Castilians. Now to returne to the Archbishop of Pisa, whom I cannot but charge with great abuse, to report that those naturall markes were inseared with a hot iron, and to lay it vpon a religious Monke of mine owne order. But to set aside many reasons and proofes that might easily confute his allegations, this one shall serue to satisfie all men that haue any sparke of discretion or iudgement; It is impossible that any man should by art, force, or skil, make a mans right arme and leg bigger in all proportions, then the left; that is only reserued to God that made him.

And further, this reuerend Lord would haue perswaded me, that the religious man that so marked him was *D. Sampayo*: which was impossible to be true, for the said father neuer once saw the King since he departed from Lisbone to go into Afrike, vntill the eleuenth of December last past, when he was set at libertie by the Venetians. Beside, this *D. Sampayo* neuer knew any priuie marks of the Kings bodie vntil the yeare of our Lord 1599. that he went into Portugale to inquire of them. Hearing so many reports so much differing, and knowing how hardly this Archbishop could hide his owne errour: and considering that to answer him peremptorily, might rather hurt then further my purpose: and to saue my selfe from perill, being within his iurisdiction, I was faine to suppresse my inward passions, but said vnto him: My Lord, seeing you vnderstand that the imprisonment of this man was the chiefe cause of my arriual in these parts, and as I vnderstand the honourable Knight came

from

from thence, being foure times sent for by letters frō Paris to the great Duke, sithence I was in Loraine, what soeuer is or shall become of his persō or affaires I resolue hereafter to take litle care, but meane to follow the other employment I recounted to your lordship. Notwithstanding, as one that hath some interest in the cause, I will render your Lordship my censure and resolution in a word, and make you partaker of my inward and secret contemplations. Forasmuch as your lordship hath acquainted with this impostor and deluders confession, dissimulation, and trumperies, I can do no lesse thē grieue thereat very much, and the rather that he escaped without punishmēt, being (as your lordship assures me he is) so vile and so notorious an offender, maruelling you would suffer so pestilent and damnable a wretch to liue, that hath bene the cause of so many mens disasters, confiscation of goods, ruines, and extinguishments, by vndertaking misaduentures by sea & land, and what not indemnities for his sake, abandoning countrie, father, mother, wife, children, house and home, rest and safetie: and I wonder it pleased God to suffer such a one to be borne, that his mother in his conception, before her deliuerance, had not bene transformed into a stone, or presently bin dissolued into smoke or aire.

What vnhappie man could haue caused me to forsake my place in Paris, where I was well and quietly seated, to thrust my life into perill, but onely he? that wicked and vngodly man. I haue twise in this vnluckie iorney bene afflicted with the gout: diuers times almost ouerwhelmed with snow, drenched in waters, tormented with clambring rocks and hils, sustaining all hazards that sea and land might present me, with thunder and lightning from clouds: and is it iustice thinke you (my good Lord) that a man occasioning so many troubles, should liue vnpunished? This man hath troubled me much, and grieued my very soule. This (noble Duke) might by the aprouemēt of many, haue caused him to haue bene indited, arraigned, and condemned, and haue ministred to him some extraordinarie death, to the terrible example of all others, and haue manifested the same to all the world. In my conceit, my noble Lord, this execution had bin most expedient & conuenient, to the commendation of

equitie and iuſtice. The Archbiſhop hearing theſe words pronounced with ſuch vehement paſſion, as though my ſoule had giuen franke conſent to my paſſionate vtterance, in lamentation of my hard ſucceſſe, ſaid: I am much grieued for your vexation: notwithſtanding I cānot ſo hainouſly accuſe nor condemne the man, but only for his folly to call himſelfe *Dom Sebaſtian* king of Portugal: for ſurely he was a reuerend man for vertue and ſinceritie of life. I could rather agree to accuſe that Religious traitor, by whom he was firſt perſwaded and ſuborned to take the name of King vpon him. Theſe & many ſuch like words he vſed aſwell to iuſtifie himſelfe, as to recouer me out of that affliction, which he perceiued his ſpeeches had thruſt me into; but in the end I took my leaue of his Lordſhip, and returned to my cloiſter of *S. Mark*, where the religious fathers receiued with many curteſies and kind welcomes. The like entertainment I found in all other conuents as I went, ſpecially at Mantua, where I was importuned to remaine many daies. God giue me abilitie & grace to requite them, that I may not be found vnthankfull; for I aſſure your Lordſhip, I cannot expreſſe the merites and fauours I found at their hands, much leſſe ſee which way I may yeeld them due recompence. From Mantua I thought beſt to go to Rome: in hope by the friendſhip of the Cardinals, and other noble Lords and Gentlemen, to find ſome furtherance in my affaires, to the bettering of my vnhappie Princes fortunes. That he ſhould be my very king and lord, I am greatly fortified in hope, & find many good ſignes and apparant arguments amongſt the moſt ſerious and religious men of eſtimation, Princes, Lords, and others: finding it not expedient to nominate all the fauorers of this enterpriſe, deſiring your Lordſhip to pardon me for not ſatisfying you in euery particular, concerning my ſucceſſe at this time according to your requeſt: which defects I will repaire in my intelligence from Rome, from whence I hope to ſend your lordſhip more exact aduertiſemēts, concerning the life and ſucceſſe of this Prince ſince the battell in Africke, from whence he hardly eſcaped by flight: with al that paſt here in the time of his impriſonmēt: how, in what maner, what day & houre he departed herehēce. Fa. *Seraphin Banchi* hath hitherto much aſſiſted me

in

in the buſineſſe,& was very ioyfull of the honourable greetings from your Lordſhip,deſiring his continuance in your honourable fauours. By his meanes I am ſo much furthered, as I truſt to morrow morning to be diſpatched hence. The Almightie bleſſe your honourable perſon in all you deſire. Florence the third of Iuly. 1601.

Your noble Lordſhips humble ſeruant, father
Fr. IOSEPH TEXERE Portugueze, &c.

A Letter written by the ſaid Fr. Texere *to the Biſhop before ſaluted.*

IN my laſt Letter written to your excellent Lordſhip from Florence, I promiſed to performe as much, or rather more at my arriuall at Rome; wherein I feare I ſhall faile(for many cauſes checking my will and endeuour) to keepe touch with your Lordſhip. Firſt,becauſe I came not hither ſo ſoone as I intended, being hindred by reaſon of my ſickneſſe which lengthned my iorney: for being in Viterbe,I ſoiourned ſeuen or eight dayes in the houſe of our Ladie *De la Quercia,* a Monaſterie of our order,diſtant ſome halfe league from the towne,where God by the interceſſion of the Virgin doth many miracles, to the benefit of the wel-beleeuers. So ſoone as I was entred into Rome, which was Sunday the fourteenth of Iuly, I ſought out my very friend,of whom I gathered,that his Holineſſe and all the Lords of the Court of Rome conceiued, and were perſwaded verily, that the priſoner which the Duke of Florence cauſed to be ſent therehence the three and twentith of Aprill at eleuen of the clock at night,and deliuered into the hands of the gouernour of *Orbetelo*,was *D. Sebaſtian* the true vnfallible King of Portugall. Of him I learned, how he was conducted from *Orbetelo* to *Hercules* port, and from that port in a galley to Naples, and laſt to Caſtelnouo. This gally the enemies made the ſubiect,to giue notice to the whole world, that the ſaid *Dom Sebaſtian* was

condemned to the gallies, and after to the castle Del ouo. Further, I was shewed the copie of a letter, which the Count of Lemos Viceroy of Naples wrote to the Duke of Sessa, Ambassadour from the King of Castile vnto his Holinesse, giuing him to vnderstand, that the same prisoner was *Dom Sebastian* the true King of Portugal. I haue also found out which of the Cardinals and Prelates fauour the cause of that vertuous and holy Prince. A friend of mine lent me his coach, wherein I went directly to the most excellent Prince, the Cardinall of Florence, and kist his hand, of whom I had the euidences your Lordship is aduised of, and after an houre and halfes conference with him, I departed in the same coach so visit sir *Alexander Giusti* Iustice *de la Rota*, our deare friend. From whom so soone as I was departed, I met neere his gate with another of my familiar acquaintance, that discouered vnto me certaine plots and circumuentions attempted and suggested by the Duke of Sesse, informing against me in the Consistorie of Rome, that I was a seditious man, preiudicall to the state of Christendome generally: for that heretofore the Christian Princes had vsed to associate themselues in a league ioyntly to make warre against the Infidels; which I had bene a cause to hinder, by interposing diuision and contention betwixt those Princes; and as a principall reason to induce them to beleeue the same: he shewed publickly the discourse which I sent your Lordship from Lions, intituled, *Admirable aduentures, &c.* which for the more familiar vnderstanding was translated into Italian and Spanish. The common dispersing of which discourse, was like to breede much dishonour and damage to *D. Philippe* the third King of Castile his maister, and so purchase vnto himselfe being his agent, infinite disgrace and harme by his displeasure. For my part I answered that I merited no punishment for traducing into writing such true accidents (as they were) the confirmation whereof increased with the time: considering they were not of mine owne inuention or stamping. Relinquishing this friend, I hasted straight to the Cardinall of Ossat, into whose owne hands when I had deliuered letters, and informed him thoroughly of the cause of my repaire thither: he aduised me not to shew my selfe so openly there

vntil

vntill such time as I vnderstood what my enemies had conspired to obiect against me since my entrance into this city, which could not be concealed, for that the Patriarke of Constantinople, (who was and is Generall of the Order of *S. Francis*, a Sicilian borne, and so much the more my forcible enemie, by how much he was zealous for the King of Castile his maister) had a glance of me in the Cardinall of Florence his house. My occasions detained me so long with this Cardinall till night grew on, so that his Lordship caused me to remaine with him vntill the morrow, wherehence after the hearing of his Masse, I departed to my first friends house: whither diuers persons of qualitie repaired to visit me, signifying vnto me, that the Ambassadour for Castile intended to work me all the mischiefe he could possible: and seeing he found no sufficient meanes to indamage me before the estate, he had a purpose to bring me within compasse of the Inquisition, alleaging these accusations that follow. First he obiected against me, that I had bene in England sixe or seuen yeares, and that I euer fauoured the proceedings of heretickes; that I composed diuers bookes fraught with heresies; that at Lions I made and began to imprint a booke against his Holinesse, and the Inquisitors generall of Portugale; with many other matters which I let passe for troubling your Lordship. To all which I answered without blemish to my honour or reputation, in this manner: I thanke God, all the time I was in England I liued amongst men that were religious, as mine enemies can testifie: and for my continance in France, I hope to acquite my selfe easily from misdemeanure there. To the most capitall matter and of greatest importance: that I wrote and began to print a booke at Lions against his Holinesse, and the Inquisitors generall of Portugale, I can purge my selfe purely, and passe as cleare as the most vnspotted innocent, being alwayes approued religious and zealous, wherein I appeale to the sincerie of al the brethren of mine own order. In that he termes me a rebel and a traitor to the King his maister, for shewing my self seruiceable and faithfull to a forein Prince his enemie: in that he is assistant to my affaires, recommending my estimation by opening a gap, to discipher the traiterous in Portugale, backsliders, ene-

mies

mies to their owne friends, and very Castilian hypocrites: that I am a disperser of many lies, in conuenticles at this instant. That article is worthy of such mens preferring as they seem to be, and not fitting men of worth and louers of Religion. As it hapneth I haue the booke about me, that was printed at Lions: which shall confute and display the malice and impudencie of him that caused the rest of my bookes to be burnt. The remainder that concernes these affaires, is best knowne to your Lordship, and therefore to conclude this point, I craue pardon for being so tedious. Now to returne to my former subiect. Sunday being the 15. of Iuly, and the Monday following, after I had finished the principall part of my intention, I determined (by the counsel of my friends) to returne directly to France. And being aduertised that the Duke of Sessa had sent beforehand some of his people to way-ly me in the ordinarie way, I changed my course by Vmbrie. I departed out of Rome the fourth day after my arriuall, and passing by the cities of Narne, Tarne, Spoleto, Foligni, and Assise, I came to Perusc, which I did onely passe thorough, and shaped my course by Siene, Florence, Bologne, thorough the confines of Modene and Mirandole: and before I could reach to Mantua, my horse fell vpon me, and hurt one of my legs very grieuously, which caused me to stay in this place, where I might prouide the best meanes for my recouerie. I assure your Lordship, I tooke this mischance to be ominous, that God would haue it so, for that by my returne this by-way, I gathered some certaintie of much that happened to *Dom Sebastian* the King, since his flight out of Africke, vntill he was discharged out of this common-weale: and now I begin to make your Lordship a true relation, certaine, and without controlement. When it was spread at Rome that I remained in this town, and that by reason of my hurt I could not so dainly depart from hence; a friend of mine certified me by letteers the sixth of August, in what manet *Paula Caizzone* with her daughter arriued at Naples, being shipped from Messina by the Catholike Kings agents, to come and acknowledge this prisoner for her husbād: and the said *Paula* meeting in the ship with a religious man of the order of *S. Francis*, of her acquaintance, she dicouering the

cause

cause of her trauel vnto him, assuring him she knew vndoubtedly that that prisoner was not *Marco Tullio Catizzone* her husband, saying, that same prisoner that they cal *D. Sebastia* king of Portugale had sent him into Portugal, which she trusted would make wel for that prisoner, and do him no hurt at al: and that she came rather to iustifie then to condemne him. The same man, my friend promised me of particular aduertisements of whatsoeuer shal be effected in this businesse. I beseech you consider the cunning the Castilians vse in the expedition of their enterprises, who are both terrible and warie in all their practises. Although they know that *Marco Tullio Catizzone* died in Portugale; yet notwithstanding they continue their indirect and false course, with inuentions and sleights colouring their proiects, to seduce and blind the world. This woman a subiect of the Spanish Kings, was threatned vpon paine of death, not to hinder any of the Kings proceedings; therefore she must take vpon her to know this man, and iustifie him to be her husband *Marco Tullio, &c.* though she had neuer seene him before, be the matter neuer so false, as it is most vntrue, and so proued by many reasons and letters whereof I made mention to your Lordship in my letters from Florence. I haue sent a copie to my friend in Rome to be deliuered to his Holinesse, and another to your Lordship with these presents, to controle all those that shall belye this action. Beside this testimonie there newly arriued a graue Portugal, a man of good authoritie and credit, that vnderstading at Rome which way I was departed, tooke post horses & came after me. Beside that he was one of my old acquaintance, he brought letters in his bosome of recommendation to induce me to trust him, and that he might open his secrets vnto me, which certaine Lords of Portugale (that sent him) charged him to doe. This man named the house in which *Marco Tullio Catizzone* died, to the owner whereof he brought and deliuered certaine letters from the King, and there were counter letters written which were neuer as yet deliuered to the King. In such sort, that this falsitie, that this prisoner is *Marco Tullio Catizzone*, can by no meanes be prooued, in fauour of the inuenters thereof. Now forasmuch as

from time to time I am in more likelihood to recouer this misshap: I truſt I ſhall not haue cauſe to ſtay in this towne to write any more letters vnto you, but purpoſe by Gods helpe to make ſmall delay to come my ſelfe to your Lordſhip, and excuſe all other meſſengers. Beſeeching the heauenly King to bleſſe your excellent lordſhip. From Venice the thirteenth of Auguſt. 1601.

Moſt humbly at your excellent Lordſhips ſeruice,
father Fr. IOSEPH TEXERE.

The copie of a Letter, written by D. Raimond Marqueti, *with this inſcription: To* Dom Sebaſtian, *calling himſelfe King of Portugal, being at Venice.*

I Receiued letters from your lordſhip the fift of September laſt paſt, wherein I perceiue the reſolution your Lordſhip hath taken, to commit your care and truſt to *Marco Tullio Catizzone*, a man as worthie as able to manage ſuch a buſineſſe. Further, I render your Lordſhip a thouſand thankes, for the good opinion and confidence you haue repoſed in my perſon; in diſcharge of which truſt, I will repaire my diligence, to learne newes of that *Marco Tullio*, who as yet is not returned into theſe quarters. But ſo ſoone as he ſhall, I will giue him to vnderſtand, how ſore your Lordſhip longeth for his returne: and will alſo aduiſe him to execute your commaundements in all points, with exceeding care, diligence, and ſecrecie; and by him I will not faile to giue your Lordſhip to vnderſtand, that when it pleaſeth your Lordſhip to ſatisfie your deſire, to ſee this countrey (haiung alreadie runne through the greateſt part of the world) I ſhal procure your conference with theſe noble men, companions to your aduentures, which you ſo earneſtly wiſh to behold, viz. the Duke of Aueyro, *Chriſtopher de Tauora*, and the reſt. If you pleaſe to ſend me ſome priuie markes or tokens, that they may repoſe as much confidence in me, as is neceſſarie for the

diſpatch

dispatch of your Lordships dissignes in this seruice, and any other: I intend to performe to your Lordship both diligence and secrecie. As for the letter to *Donna Paula Catizzone*, I hold it no policie to deliuer it her, considering it is a loose aduenture in such daungers to trust a woman. Neither will I neglect to be carefull for the honour of the said *Paula Catizzones* house, as your Lordship required me: and in the end the effects shall shew. To conclude, I desire your Lordship to excuse me for not vsing so reuerent a stile to your Lordship as I could wish, which I hope you conceiue I refraine to do, because I would not be discouered in your weightier affaires: holding this the best and safest course to do your seruice: wherein I beseech the Almightie God to prosper your Lordship, and grant you due successe, to whose tuition with reuerend kissing your hands a thousand times, I commit your Lordship. From Messina the eighth of October. 1598.

Dom Raimond Marquett.

The copie of a Letter written by Dom Sebastian *King of Portugale while he was prisoner in Venice, sent to Padua to the most reuerend* D. Prospero Baracco, *Amner to the Cathedrall Church in that towne, the originall remaining in the hands of S^r*
Georgio Bustarelli.

MOst reuerend *D. Prospero*, I am to signifie vnto your Lordship, how much I haue bene grieued for your meritlesse afflictions, hauing suffered imprisonment for my sake, by the poursuite of the Castilians mine enemies. But seeing things past are irreuocable, and are onely to be ouercome with patience, considering you are not ignorant of the whole complotment. And forasmuch as I am so restrained from writing at large, that I cannot expresse vnto you my secret meaning; I onely request you to send some trustie messenger to Messina, diligently to en-

quire and ſearch, whether *Marco Tullio Catizzone* be returned thither with any directions or not. And to that end & purpoſe, your reuerend Lordſhip may vſe my name to *D. Raimond Marqueti*, to whom I wrote heretofore being at Moran, if you forget not, that I receiued alſo anſwer frō him. And this Gētleman you may informe of all that hath paſt ſince that time (if you thinke good) and when *Catizzone* ſhal happen to come thither, he may direct him couertly to this place, where he may ſecretly giue me knowledge of the expedition in my affaires. And for the loue you owe to the Almightie, faile not one whit in a buſineſſe to me of ſo great importance, conſidering howe much it may auaile, to bring my long trauailes to good end: and weying, that the Lords of Venice wil not be brought to the true period of iuſtice, notwithſtanding I haue oftentimes labored vnto thē to do me right, and make me knowne perſonally to the world, ſaying, that if they finde me not to be *D. Sebaſtian* king of Portugale, without fauor let them worthily puniſh me. For all this ſute they neither yet would nor will come to the center of my iuſt cauſe, and wrongfull impriſonment, ſaying, that they loued not to be mocked and trifled withall, offering alwayes very readily, that if I would denie, or not profeſſe my ſelfe to be *D. Sebaſtian &c.* they would ſet me at libertie, &c. Loue me ſtill as I haue done you, & ſo farewel. From Venice the 15. of April 1599.

D. Sebaſtian King of Portugale.

Another Letter written by the foreſaid Fr. Texere *a Portugale, to the ſame Biſhop.*

I Wrote to your excellent Lordſhip frō Venice the thirteenth of Auguſt, and departed thence the eighteenth of the ſame, being then not thoroughly well: for which reaſon I made the way more long and tedious then I purpoſed. I ſtaied many daies at Soleurre, becauſe *Monſieur de Vic* would not let me paſſe, vntill *Monſieur de Silliery* came to towne. After whoſe comming

he

he ſtayed me to ſee the order of that Towne, in entertaining the Cantons and other prouincials at their firſt feaſt: and this commaundement I could not well diſobey. This importunitie and ſuch other were the impediments, that I could not reach vnto Paris before the fourteenth of October. Then preſently I went to Fontaine Bleau, to kiſſe his moſt Chriſtian Maieſties hand; who entertained me verie princely, ſhewing himſelfe glad of my ſafe returne. For to tell you true, I had no aſſured being, but in Fraunce (ſo offenſiue and dangerous was the Spaniſh indignation vnto me). At my returne from Fontaine Bleau, I met with your Lordſhips Aduocate agent, praying him to giue your Lordſhip aduertiſement of my returne: promiſing to write vnto your Lordſhip ſhortly after: which I did not effect, partly for mine vnapt diſpoſition, being vexed with ſlaunderous lyes and tales, which mine enemies found occaſion to ſpreade in my abſence. Who for the ſatisfaction of their malice, hauing nēither care of the law of God, nor of his feare, ſticke not to ſuppreſſe any troth, to further the confuſion of their neighbour, or Chriſtian brother. And to gorge their wicked appetits, reſpect neither the honor of the King, his ſafetie, nor the fiering of Portugale, which they had lately kindled and diſturbed: and more then that, being blinded in furie themſelues, thinke no man elſe can perceiue their intents, be the matter neuer ſo plaine and manifeſt. But of this theame let this ſuffiſe, conſidering your L. is not ignorant of Caſtilian broiles.

At my firſt entrance into this place, I found certaine letters written from Rome, Venice, Padua, and other ordinarie paſſages in Italy; all which gaue me credible intelligence, that the King my Lord and maiſter liues, and that he is well intreated, in priſon in the Caſtell De Ouo. And my Romaine friend, being ioyfull of my good newes, wrote vnto me in this forme following: *Foraſmuch as your afflictions, daungers, and trauailes haue receiued ſome hope of good euent, and for that it is certaine, that the troubles of thoſe that feare God, ſhall be conuerted into proſperitie, ſo it may fall out, that Hæc olim meminiſſe iuuabit.* Theſe words and tidings ſeemed very common and vulgar; which being conferred with thoſe things that fel out happily in Rome, for the good

of my Soueraigne, I conceiued great hope, yet once again to see him reestablished in his kingdome. By the same letter I vnderstand, that my intelligence hath bred him great contentment, and that also he conceiued no lesse pleasure by those copies which I sent him, to present vnto his Highnesse: which were the transcripts of those I sent your Lordship from Venice, which proue that *Marco Tullio Catizzone* is one, and *Dom Sebastian* another. A Doctor and a friend of mine dwelling at Lions, shewed me a letter which a French gentleman his inward friend, of good calling dwelling in Rome, after he had recorded many things concerning the King my maister, reuealed as followeth. *The Count of Lemos Viceroy of Naples, is very fauourable to* Dom Sebastian *his prisoner, honouring him very much, allowing him some small libertie: which when he heard that the King of Castile tooke in ill part, he began presently to restraine and kept him shorter. When he was allowed to heare Masse amongst other prisoners, they did honor him with much reuerence, saying among themselues, that they discouered in his countenance and cariage, a princely Maiestie. And without all question, he must needs be* Dom Sebastian *the King of Portugale, or some diuell in his likenesse. The Viceroy (as it is said) craued licence of the King of Castil, to go into Spaine, because in Naples he could not recouer his health, which the King would in no wise grant him.* There be other letters sent into these parts, not from Portugals, or any other by their appointment, the contents whereof are here expressed. *Heretofore it hath bene lawfull and tollerable for this prisoner that termed himselfe* D. Sebastian *King of Portugale, to speake with any Portugals or men of other nations, that desired to see the said prisoner, that said they had seene him before: and sithence they verified him to be* Dom Sebastian *the true king of Portugal, he is more straightly kept from the sight and speech of any then before.* Another letter (hauing recounted something concerning this King) addeth: *The Count Lemos lying in his death bed about the last of October, said to his sonne in the presence of his wife and diuers other prisoners, that he should looke well to the place and charge he had, both of the Viceroyship and his prisoners: for you see (said he) that I am vpon the point to go to God, to render account for that I haue done during my life: and here I must cease*

and end my worldly businesse: for the disburdening of my soule and conscience, I protest that this prisoner here, whom the vulgar call a Calabrian, is the very true Dom Sebastian, *lawfull King of Portugale. I know it assuredly, hauing examined him, and for that I haue had often conference with him before his imprisonment. Therefore I commaund and intreat you to vse him well. This done, he gaue him a letter, which (said he) is written to his Maiestie, I meane the Catholicke King, touching these affaires, and vse all the diligence you can in these things I haue giuen you in charge. The father being dead, the sonne respected the prisoner with much more reuerence then he did before, but allowed him lesse libertie then he had in the old Counts life.* I haue also two letters from Doctor *Sampayo*, the one bearing date the 18 of Nouember, the other the fourth of December, which confirme the same contents before mentioned. There be many other letters here lately sent from Portugals to the same purpose, reinforcing the truth: and here lately past a Portugall by this towne, that protesteth he spake with *Dom Sebastian*, declaring markes and tokens of his apparell, chamber, and bed, and other appertenances. The same Portugall said further, the King inquired of him for certaine persons, which this partie being then but yong, could not remember, and therefore gaue him no direct answer. We haue here many rumours from diuers places neare about. One wrote out of Portugale, which diuers other comming from thence confirme, that vpon *S. Anthonies* day of Padua the last yeare, they rong the great bell at Villila in Arragone in the city of Coimbre, an vniuersity of Portugale, where befell a very admirable and rare wonder. In the same towne there is a couent of Canons regulars, of the order of *S. Augustine*, sincerely reformed, great and rich, in the which is interred the bodie of *D. Alphonse Henriques*, the first King of Portugale, whom they adore for a Saint. In whose behalfe (they say) God hath shewed some miracles vnto men, to cõfirme their opinion of him, that they beleeue not amisse. Many religious men for this foure hundred yeares space successiuely continuing this Saint for their intercessor to God, (*vt ferunt*) haue obtained much release and consolation in their afflictions, aswel strangers as the naturall countrimen; and to this effect they haue a booke

written, recording all the benefits receiued thereby: so that this house neuer harboured any other, then those that were deuoted to this holy King. The last yeare an old man (whom age had made feeble and decrepit) vsed euer to kneele down and pray at the sepulcher of the said King: and vpon S. *Anthonies* day the last yeare, he there in happie time offered his solemne prayers, and continued a long time in meditation before the sepulcher, where he remained vntill he was stiffe, and not able of him selfe to rise, but by the assistance of his iuniors and religious brethren, who beholding all his face bedeawed with teares, demaunded of him how it came to passe. This old man answered, I am very much displeased and grieued at the negligence of our Kings and Princes of Portugale, aswell dead as liuing, I meane descending from this holy King, that being assured by infinite miracles that he is in heauen in eternall glorie, and liues in the presence of God, and we neuer yet knew any man that trauelled to canonize him. To who one or two answered, That houre shal come. And father, seeing your deuotion and loue is so great to this holy King, beseech him to be a mediator for the libertie of *Dom Sebastian* (descending of his masculine line) that he may be restored to his former dignities and Realmes; and that good deed will cause him to be canonized.

We haue heard lately more reports by the passengers from Italy and France, that he whom the Venetians imprisoned and released the last yeare, is *Dom Sebastian* our true King and Lord, and that he seemes no whit to degenerate from the steps and traces of his auncestors.

As those religious men were aduising and contemplating vpon the vision of this *Alphonse*, which was mentioned in the *Admirable aduenture, &c.* and considering the promise God made vnto him, whē he appeared vnto him in the field Orique, the sepulcher resounded vnto them three strokes, hearing the eccho with abilitie to iudge frō whence the noise came. The sound being past, they approched nearer vnto the tombe, continuing their discourse; and sodainly againe the tombe gaue three other great blows, so terrible that they were forced to recule for feare, and the eccho continued so long that they all were amazed, and

became

became as pale and wan, as men vse to be in the horror of death. When afterward they came to themselues, recouering their senses and perfect vnderstanding, and conceiued that it came by the old mans praier, they went and reuealed this accident to the Bishop of that citie, who in all the time of treatie betweene Portugale and the King of Castile, approoued himselfe as ranke a traitor to his countrey, as he proued true seruant to the King of Spaine: who for his recompence was established in that sea, and created Bishop of Coimbre, Count of Arganill, &c. with 50000 duckets of yearely annuitie. This Bishop aduertised of the noise, came to the Couent and made inquisition, and finding it a thing so extraordinary, said: You Portugals that wonder at these toies, and giue credite to bables, know that the soule of this Saint, being aloft in glory, is so sore offended with you, that God suffereth these sensless monuments, to giue testimonie of your sopperies. These words were so ill taken by the people of the town assembled about that strange noise, that the Bishop was constrained to vnsay that he had said, and to confesse it was very wonderfull.

Furthermore, there are many letters come of late from Portugale, that testifie, that at Lisbone the last of October in the yeare 1601. the Church and hospitall of the King, (called all Saints) sodainly fell on fire by night, and flamed so furiously, that the roofe was burnt, and all the images of the Kings of Portugal that were painted vpon the wall (only the pourtrait of *D. Sebastian*) was left vndefaced. The selfesame ruine happened to the armes of the Kings and Princes of Portugal, which were drawn in scutchions vpō the wall. The day following being the feast of all Saints, in the forenoone fell an infinite number of hailstones as big as small egges, red of colour, which bred as great cause of wonder, as the raine that fell the day following, which was so extreme, that (as I haue heard credibly reported by many) the people of that towne durst not go out of their doores all that day, for feare of drowning. These things to me (aswell as to others) I assure your Lordship seeme maruellous, and can find no reason of their rareneſſe: God of his diuine mercie turne them to good. I could haue written to your Lordship more newes of great consequence, if my paper had not bin

iniurious. But now to returne to our first subiect, which I wil intirely deliuer vnto your Lordship, & seeing I haue recouered my strength, I will proceed to declare vnto you the succesſe of *D. Sebastian* King of Portugale, since his escape from the battell in Afrike: which I intreat your Lordship to cause to be imprinted, that all Princes may haue free knowledge of the historie. Paris the twelfth of Ianuarie 1602.

Immediatly after my last writing, I receiued letters from my friends at Venice and Padua, by which I vnderstand, the Agent of that signiorie (being resident in the Catholicke Kings Court) hath written a letter to that State, which hath bin opēly read at Pregay, part of the contents whereof are: *That the Count Lemos Viceroy of Naples, before his death wrote a letter to the King his maister, wherein he did assure him, that that prisoner which he caused to be sent him from the Duke of Tuscane, vnder the name and title of a Calabrian, was* Dom Sebastian *the very true King of Portugale, which in the yeare 1578. lost the battell in Africke: which he affirmed with many assured reasons, and trials as hauing throughly examined him of diuers things wherein he had dealt with him both in Portugale and Castile. This Viceroy neuer receiued answer of this letter, in his life: and therefore (being then almost at the last gaspe) for the disburdening of his soule, he detected this secret to his sonne that succeeds in his place, in the presence of his wife, his confessour, and diuers other persons of good account, giuing him also a letter for the King, wherein is ratified the same he spake before. The new Viceroy sent to the Catholike king, a noble man of the house of Manriques, of whose house proceeded the Dukes of Najara. This Siegnior be sent with his fathers letter, & it is reported that the King returned answer of the same letter to the Count Lemos, commaunding him to intreate that prisoner well, and take especial care that no disaster chanced vnto him.* These news inforced me to inlarge this treatise, I would to God they were like to be true, and that the Catholike King would answer his title with due correspondēcy to Christianitie, according to his Christian stile, by yeelding libertie to his Cosin-germaine, and restoring all that to him belongeth: which were an excellēt branch of honour and magnanimitie, and an assured meane to settle Chri-

stendome

ſtendome in peace, and to auoide the daunger of preſent warre, which now the lowring heauens, and malicious inclination of ſtarres do aſſure vs to fall vpon vs. I confeſſe, that ſo many extraordinary accidents do perſwade me to expect a good iſſue out of all theſe troubles, that may be both happie and profitable to the whole common-weale of Chriſtendome. Pleaſeth it your Lordſhip to remember that about the infancie of our amitie, I ſaid that if the Portugals and the Caſtilians be not ſeparated, it will be impoſſible to maintaine a generall peace in Europe: iuſtifying my opinion, with many euident demonſtrations, and yet to this day I hold the ſame reſolution, in which many noble men both of the counſell and others of great calling do accord, ſaying, They from day to day ſee more apparant reaſons ſo to iudge. To that end do I dayly offer vp my ſacrifices and earneſt prayers to intreate the Almightie God, that it may pleaſe him of his diuine mercie, to inſpire the hearts of all Chriſtian Princes, to combine in one knot to ſet this cauſe aright, before the increaſe of more miſchiefe: for, ſo much the longer as they deferre this good worke, ſo much the greater will be the ruine of Portugale, and perill of our vniuerſall deſtruction.

Your noble Lordſhips humble ſeruant,
Fr. IOSEPH TEXERE Portugueze.

A NARRATION OF THINGS DONE BY DOM SEBASTIAN KING OF PORTVGAL,

since the battell he loſt in the fields of Alquiber in Afrieke, fighting againſt *Muley Maluco* an Infidell, anno 1578. vntill this preſent time.

Written by Fr. Ioſeph Texere *Portugueze.*

The Preface.

GEntle Reader, foraſmuch as I haue done you the fauour by my trauell to diſcouer in writing vnto you a Peregrination ſo much deſired: I ſhall intreate the like of you againe, in giuing credite to that I will moſt faithfully deliuer vnto you, concerning the naturall inclination of the Portugals, and the diſpoſition of the King.

The Portugals haue two eſpeciall qualities, happily differing from other nations, which are as familiar to them, as to laugh is proper to all men. The firſt is, they are extremely ſcrupulous of conſcience: the ſecond, they are exceeding conſtant in their reſolutions, eſpecially when they are aſſured that they are warranted by the law of God, and concerne his glorie: for the firſt I will recommend vnto your iudgements two examples. The firſt, after the death of D. Henry *ſuppoſed King of Portugale, the ſucceſſion of that kingdome being left to the inheritance of women, came directly to* D. Katherine *Ducheſſe of Bragance, daughter to the ſonne of* D. Duarte, *brother germaine to the ſaid* Henry: *who cauſed her title to be diſputed of in the Vniuerſitie of Coimbre, which diſputation was publiſhed in print, and*

compiled

compiled in a booke confirmed by the hands of foureteene Doctours, subscribing thereunto: all whose sentences were pronounced in the fauour of the said Katherine. The like censure was exhibited by the Doctors of Bologne, Pisa, & other vniuersities in that part of Europe, the succession of the said Realme of Portugale, being adiudged to the same Katherine, & D. Iohn Duke of Bragance, her husbād & cosin germaine: by reason whereof (while the Cardinal liued being induced, or rather informed by the Agents of D. Philip the second King of Castile, not to publish the said D. Katherine to be his heire, did respite the publication, pretending that D. Katherine, D. Anthonie, and D. Philippo, being all at once with other competitours to the crowne, might set some variance among the people about the title, leauing it to be censured after his death by certaine Iudges that he had appoined and named) he sware to stand to the sentence of those Iudges, and would not pronounce him King of Portugale himselfe, but said it might be a meanes for him to come to the best assurance of the enterprise before any other: for that he had on his part, not onely the most of the Princes of Portugale, descending from that line, but also many cities and townes in that Realme, whereof he was owner and Lord, being aboue fifty with castles, beside the citie of Bragance, and had vnder his gouernement aboue two hundred thousand subiects of account, by reason whereof he was the greatest and the richest Prince subiect, among the Christian Princes of Europe. Considering withall, that out of the citie of Bragance, and two other townes called Chaues, which the Romaines termed AEquas Flauas, he was able to make, and bring into the field thirtie thousand men, betweene the age of fiue and twentie and fiftie yeares. And it is to be noted, that the men bred in those parts be hard and valiant souldiers, and haue bene so approued in the battels and victories which the Portugals haue had against the Spaniards, by whom they haue bene often vanquished in ranged battels. This Princes nice conscience, was the cause why he extended not his force to defend his right, but withdrew himselfe into a corner, without purpose or intent to marrie either one or the other: by which means he left the crowne to him in the right of his late wife, and his life in short time after.

The second example.

The Lord D. Antonio, the Prior of Crato, likewise supposed king

of Portugale, by reason of his oath at Santaren, where he was chosen, and after at Lisbone, in which election he was confirmed by the Deputies of the cities and townes of the kingdome, promised by oath that he would make no bargaine or agreement with any of their enemies, but leaue the same Realme at libertie. The Catholicke King D. Philippo offered to make him Viceroy of Naples for his life time, with foure hundred thousand duckets of yearely rent, and the bestowing of certaine offices and benefites, and fiftie thousand duckets presently to pay his debts to go into Italy: and likewise to restore to their former state, dignitie, houses, and goods, those persons from whom they haue bene confiscated by his occasion, and to giue both honour and riches to all them that should accompanie and attend vpon him, according to euery mans place and calling; vpon condition he would renounce and disclaime all his right and interest in the kingdome of Portugale, by vertue of their election: and if withal he would sweare neuer to giue attention to any, that might perswade him to the contrary. His answer was to all these great offers: That his conscience bound him to do nothing preiudiciall to the contract he had alreadie made, and that he had rather liue poorely and die miserably in a simple chamber with credite, performing the dutie of a good Christian, then to liue in great pompe and pride, in sumptuous pallaces, disclaiming the law and commaundements of God.

Courteous Reader, no man can speake so assuredly, or so sensibly in this matter as I: for in the yeare 1582. vpon S. Augustines day, being prisoner at Lisbone, D. Christopher de Nora (for that time appointed Viceroy of Portugal, with whō his Catholike M. sent a gentlemā of his chamber for me) assured me, that I might talke with him as boldly as with himself, telling me that the king meant to employ me to D. Antonio about these affaires. This was not then effected, for that I escaped out of prison: since when, in this country & in Englād, I conferred with him diuers times about this businesse being his confessor, who often said vnto me, God forbid I should do a thing so contrarie to my conscience: if I should (said he) I perswade my selfe that euery chinke or furrow in the ground would open and swallow me vp presently, by reason of that offence. God first I desire, to take away my life: I had rather liue laden with afflictions, accompanied with miserie and beggarie, reseruing my serious and publike promise, then to leade a periured

life

life in great prosperitie, pleasures, and delights. Thus he died, obtaining (as I thinke) for the preseruation of his integritie, aswell reputation among Christian men, as recompence at Gods hand, desiring alwayes to liue and rest in peace: and in regard of his small ambition, could haue contented himselfe with the tenth part of the King his cosins offer, had it not bene for the respect to his oath at their election: and could haue found in his heart, to haue quit the right and claime he had by his father, while the right was in him, but could not dispense with the oath they bound him with when they elected him, hauing power to do the first, but not the second.

This is sufficient (as I take it gentle Reader) to proue vnto you my first proposition, That the Portugals dwell vpon the seueritie of their conscience. Now comming to proue the second, which is, That they are most constant in their designes, when they resolue to build vpon the true law of God, and his honour, I am to intreate you to defend me against the murmurers, our enemies in two respects: that is to say, not onely in the principall point that shall concerne our subiect, but that they may become censurers of me and of the cause, saying, That in the first historie of two, I spake not religiously, and that I giue cause of offence to the Kings and Princes of Europe, or that I incite you to take armes against them. To the first obiection I answer, that when a person of what estate soeuer he be, deliuer any thing to good purpose, or vtter by chance that which is come to passe; in that he offends not, being thereunto obliged in dutie and conscience. As for the second, where they suggest that I transgresse against Christian Princes, they are much deceiued: for though a man make fine gold into a chaine, yet for all that it looseth neither the beautie nor reputation of gold, nor the name of the most excellent metall of all others: so let it be supposed that a man descended of a princely race, become a meane subiect, yet cannot any man say, he looseth by his deiection of fortune his Nobilitie that came by nature: for Dauids sheepe-hooke was no disgrace to the Scepter of Iuda, nor Iustines wallet, nor the halter of Gratian father to Valentine, were any blemish to the imperiall Crowne. Therefore I conclude, that no man can accuse me of rashnesse in the narration of my historie, speaking to a good end accidentally, though I proue that manie Kings and Princes of Europe, haue bene deriued out of meane

or vulgar houses.

The Chronicles of Portugale offer vnto vs among the traditions of our auncestors, a notable historie well worthie the reporting and obseruing. In Portugale in the Prouince of Alentejo, otherwise called Transtagana, there is a towne called Veyros, by estimation about the bignesse of Manto vpon Seine, situate vpon a mountaine, at the foote whereof Westward, there runnes a riuer which hath the beginning from the North part, the current passing into the South. Not far frō that town vpō the highest part of a litle mountaine, regarding the West for the most part, this riuer seemes to haue an issue towards the East; and there is a foord where men are constrained to passe, vnder this promonterie: the riuer hath made a sandy shallow place, as it were knee-deepe, where the women inhabiting the said towne vse to wash their linnen, maides aswell noble as vulgar. It fell out vpon a day that D. Iohn naturall sonne to the King of Portugale, was to passe by that point with D. Petro Iusticier & great Maister ouerseer of the cities, and by reason of that office was indued with spirituall and temporall honour and authoritie. He being a yong and lustie gallant, and gouernour of the same towne, beholding these maidens with their clothes trust vp as women vse going about that labour, this noble man began to ieast with the rest of his companie at the bare-legged wenches, and passing by them, some part of his traine yet to come, one wench amongst the rest (as the historie reporteth) in a red peticote, as she was tucking vp her clothes, discouered her legs somewhat high, and giuing her selfe a clap with her hand on the calfe of her right leg, said aloud, Here is a white leg (girles) for the master of Auiz. Which being ouerheard by some of his followers, whom she tooke no heed of, hearing and seeing what the wench had both said and done, came no sooner into their Lords lodging, but they reported vnto him what they had heard a young frolike wench say, and seene her do. Wherewithall this noble gallant being stirred, sent for her presently, and finding meanes to haue her secretly, vpon her begot a sonne. And this maide was a shoomakers daughter of that town, very rich and of good account, who vnderstanding that his daughter was sent for to such a noble man, and being informed that her owne speech and light behauior was the first cause, and being assured she was defloured by her owne franke consent: took it so haingusly, that at her return home, he reuiled her with most

opprobrious

opprobrious and despitefull words, and beate her out of his doores openly: and to manifest vnto the world, how much he was inwardly vexed with the spoile of his daughter, he neuer after would eate at any table, nor sleepe in a bed, nor put on any shirt, neuer pared his nails, pol'd his haire, nor cut his beard, which grew so long, that the people called him Barbadon, for it continued vncut till it reached beneath his knees. This malcontent liued so long that his grand child, called D. Alphonse grew to be a man, and Duke of Bragance (created by the great Auize maister his father, who by the election of the people, afterward became King of Portugale, and for his worthie acts, was surnamed memorable) and Barcelos by the right of his wife, the sole daughter, and inheritor to the Constable of Portugale. This towne of Veyros, stãds betweene 7 or 8 other towns belonging to the said Duke and is distant but foure leagues from Villa Vicosa, where his pallace is. This vicinitie was the cause that he had perfect intelligence of the shoomaker his grandfather, & the reports he heard of him, made him so desirous to see him, that he determined to go seeke him out himself in his owne town: where meeting him in the streets, he alighted frõ his horse, and kneeled downe before him bare-headed, and desired him to giue him his hand and his blessing withall. The shoomaker hauing an eye to the Dukes traine that attended vpon him, and seeing his base humblenesse, and hearing his speeches, amazedly conceiued him to be some great personage, vnknowne to him, said: Sir, do you mocke me? The Duke answered, So God help me I do not: but in earnest I craue I may kisse your hand, and receiue your blessing, for I am your grand child, and sonne to Ines your daughter, conceiued by the King my Lord and father. Assoone as the shoomaker heard these sayings, he clapped his hand before his eyes, and said: God blesse me from euer beholding the sonne of so wicked a daughter, as mine was. Yet forasmuch as you are not guiltie of her offence, hold, take my hand and my blessing, In the name of the father, &c. But neither the Duke nor his followers could perswade him to pull away the hand that couered his eyes, so confident this old man was in his discontentment: neither would he talke any longer with the Duke. Shortly after, this old man died, and before his death, he tooke order for a tombe to couer him, whereupon he commaunded to be ingrauen all manner of tooles that belonged to a shoomaker, with this Epitaph.

This ſepulcher *Barbadon* cauſed to be made
(Being of Veyros, a ſhoomaker by his trade)
For himſelfe, and the reſt of his race,
Excepting his daughter *Ines* in any caſe.

I haue heard it reported by the ancienteſt perſons, that the fourth Duke of Bragance, D. Iames *ſonne to* Donna Iſabel *(ſiſter to the king,* D. Emmanuel*) cauſed that tombe to be defaced, being the ſepulcher of his fourth grandfather.*

As for the daughter, after ſhe was deliuered of that ſon, continued a very chaſt and vertuous woman all her life, and the king made her Commandreſſe of Santos, a moſt honorable place, and very plentifull (to thewhich none but Princeſſes are admitted, liuing as it were Abbeſſes and Princeſſes of a Monaſtery, builded without the walles of Liſbone, called Santos (that is, Saints) founded by reaſon of ſome Martyrs that were there martyred. And the religious women of that place haue libertie to marrie with the Knights of their order, before they enter into that holy profeſſion: the order is called S. Iames*, bearing the ſame Croſſe. In this Monaſterie the ſame* Donna Ines *died, leaning behind her a glorious reputation for her vertue and holineſſe. Obſerue (gentle Reader) the conſtancie that this Portugale, a ſhoomaker continued in, lothing to behold the honourable eſtate of his grand child, nor would any more acknowledge his daughter, hauing bene a leud woman, ſo purchaſing aduancement with diſhonour. This conſidered, you will not wonder at the Count* Iulian*, that plagued Spaine, and executed the King* Rodrico *for forcing his daughter* la Caua.

The example of this ſhoomaker is eſpecially worthie the noting, and deeply to be conſidered: for beſide that it makes good our aſſertion, it teaches the higher not to diſdaine the lower, as long as they be vertuous and louers of honour. It may be, that this old man for his integritie riſing from a vertuous zeale, merited, that a daughter comming by deſcent from his grand child ſhould be made Queene of Caſtile, and the mother of great Iſabell *grandmother to two Emperours,* Charles *the fifth, and* Ferdinando*; and confute the prouerbe in Spaine:*

De cien en cien años los Reyes villanos:
Y de ciento en ſeyes los villanos Reyes. *which is,*

From

From a hundred to a hundred yeares Kings become villains: and from a hundred to sixe, villaines become Kings : so here the plough was conuerted into the Scepter, in lesse then three score and ten yeares.

For the proofe of my second proposition, I must necessarily referre you to the historie expressed in the discourse of the twelfth letter, intituled: Admirable aduentures, &c. concerning *Dom Sebastian* the true and lawfull King of Portugale: *where it is reported of* D. Alphonse *the African (King of Portugale) that seeing King* Lewis *the sixt deluded him, in not giuing him aid according to his promise made at the beginning, when he first arriued in France (by which meanes for two yeares space he left Portugal, not being able for want of power to bring his purpose to any good passe, for his returne, being ashamed to be seene of the Portugals, for that he lost a battell against the Castilians) determined with himselfe to steale as vnknowne out of France secretly, and place himselfe in a Monastery neare vnto Rome. And to effect that dissigne he disguised himselfe in a strange habite, taking with him but two of his people to accompanie him: but he and they were intercepted and taken by the way by* Robinet (*termed the Oxe of Normandy*): *which* Philippus Comineus *also confirmeth with this addition, that king* Lewis *was much offended with* Robinet *for that peece of seruice: forcing him to supply him with an armie & embark him for Portugale, where he ended his life, as I haue already more at large declared vnto you elsewhere.*

That which I haue said (gentle Reader) I thinke to be sufficient, to acquaint you with the naturall disposition of Portugales. And to induce you to beleeue what likewise hath bin verified concerning D. Sebastian *my Lord and Maister, it is conuenient for you to know, that he resolued neuer to discouer himselfe, or to make it apparant to any man, what he was; but was fully perswaded to passe the rest of his time vncothly, and so to finish his life in silence: because he wilfully tooke vpon him (contrary to the aduice of* Xarifa, *and all the Princes, Lords, and Commaunders that accompanied him, to giue battell to* Muley Maluco, *in the houre, the day and place, that in their iudgement was not thought fit for his aduantage: and the King acknowledging his error and ouersight he committed that day, so afflicted his soule, that the memorie thereof bred him more inward torment and vexation, then any misfortune that euer befell him in all his wofull*

dayes. For the confirmation whereof, I will giue you to vnderſtand (courteous Reader) what I heard an old man ſay, being a man of great authority, an ordinary aſſiſtant, and a common releeuer of afflicted perſons be they neuer ſo abiect, and a Religious man of mine owne Order, and Archbiſhop of Spalato, a Venetian borne, a maintainer and ſupporter of truth, who during this Realmes laſt troubles, wrote in the behalf of his Chriſtian Maieſtie. This reuerend Prelat, while I lay ſicke in his houſe, diſtant ſome halfe league from Venice, ſitting by my bed ſide, ſaid vnto me: In this very ſelfe ſame bed lay D. Sebaſtian your King, tormented with a feauer, before his impriſonment in Venice, at which time in my hearing, a father of the Order of S. Bernard, a Doctor in Diuinitie, very famous for his profeſſion, intreated him to tell him how it came to paſſe that he loſt the battell in Africa: and becauſe the King condeſcended not to his demaund, he reiterated the ſame againe. Then ſuddenly I beheld teares guſhing from his eyes as big as peaſe, and in ſuch abundance, as they did wet not onely his handkercher, but his ſhirt, the ſheete, and a ſilke quilt that laye vpon him. This paſſion was without weeping or ſobbing, for that he neuer could do, but euer ſhewed himſelfe all one, no changeling, come proſperity or aduerſity. At length he requeſted vs inſtantly, to vſe ſome other communication, ſaying, The remembrance of that intollerable miſhap, was to him ſuch a torment, as it depriued him of reaſon and iudgement, and made him deſire to abandon both the ſight and conuerſation of all men. All this griefe could not ſupplant his ſickneſſe, which perſecuted him ſo ſore, as he was out of hope or care of his recouery: oft tẽpting him to end his miſery with his owne hands. I conſidered it was great inhumanity to adde a torment to his affliction, in ſeeking to extract that from his knowledge, which his extreme ſorow would not giue his tong leaue to vtter: ſo I deſired the noble man to depart with me, and giue him time to reſt a while: for that the night before he had ſlept very little or not at all. To conclude, the ſhame and griefe he ſuſtained inwardly by his raſh attempt, as is before rehearſed, committing ſo great an error, and ſo preiudiciall to Chriſtianitie, enforced him to obſcure and hide himſelfe from all his acquaintance and familiars: imitating Alphonſo his predeceſſor, both in temeritie and repentance: or to equall Boleſlaus king of Poland, who to kill Staniſlaus the Biſhop of Cracouia,

left

left both his Crowne and Scepter, and retired himselfe into Hungary, where some say within few yeares after the execution of his bloudie purpose, he slue himselfe. Others say, that he was deuoured with dogs in a forest: but the most certaine report saith, that he serued a Cooke in a Monasterie at Carinthia (called Osia) *a litle distant from the towne named Felkirchen: and after the sufferance of many troubles and trauels he died, and was knowne by a writing which was found in his bosome, the content whereof was:* I am *Boliſlaus* sometime King of Poland, that slue *Staniſlaus* Bishop of Cracouia. *In the same maner I beleeue had* Dom Sebastian *the King of Portugale died, had he not bene a religious man, bound in conscience to shew and reueale himself, and take paines to seeke to be restored to his former rights and dignities, so prouoked to do by secret illumination from God himselfe, who otherwise had resolued to end his life in an hermitage: which intent he manifested in certaine Italian verses composed by him while he was in prison in Venice, which I haue about me, vttering all his successe sithence he lost the battell in Africke, &c. There were foure examiners appointed by the Senate to attend that businesse all the time of his imprisonment there, which examinations and verses he sent inclosed in a letter to his Holinesse, which also are in custodie. The Aduocate, Iudge, Counsellor, and Inquisitor testifie, that he gaue them a princely, sententious, and a pithie answer, rehearsing all things that had past concerning himselfe and others, since that battell in Africke, with the names of the Generals, Colonies, Captaines, Lords, and Gentlemen, that accompanied him in that action: the number and the diuersities of nations, the day, the houre, the situation of the place, where it was fought; how and in what manner he escaped.*

I am againe to intreat you friendly Reader, to giue credite to that I shall report vnto you, and not to measure the nature of Portugals by the light and leud dispositions of other nations.

When I was in England with D. Antonie, *the putatiue King of Portugal, as I told you before, I was solicited by Fr.* Diego *of Chaues, a professor of mine owne order, with great importunacie to relinquish and giue ouer this S^r* D. Antonio, *and incline towards his Catholike Maiestie, whose confessor this* Diego *was, and his sole Gouernor: assuring me, that if I would yeeld to his request, I should be very bounti-*

fully rewarded, & wrote vnto me most confidently, that my entertainment should not want one mite of 25 or 30000 duckets yearely in reuenue to be duely paid, which allowãce would not only serue cõpetently to maintaine me in honorable estate, but I might also deduct a surplusage therehence, to inrich my kindred and friends withall, whõ also the king promised to prefer & aduance for my sake, (this Cõfessor was my mothers cosin-germaine) assuring me that all my actions, intents, and purposes whatsoeuer, preiudiciall to his Catholike Maiestie, should be quite buried in oblision, and no blame for any inuectiues or writings in derogation of his Maiestie should be ance obiected against me. And to the end I might the rather yeeld vnto him, he recapitulated all the particular offices and fauours he had performed in my behalfe at the time of my imprisonment; that he purchased my deliuerance, & saued me from being adiudged to the gallies, and also preuented me from being stretched vpon the racke: and further, obtained pardon of his Maiestie for Emanuel Texere my vnkle, that was condemned to loose his head; and caused all his goods to be restored, that were confiscate, for being in employment with D. Antonio against the king: and when he could not obtaine a graunt at my hands of that which he demaunded himself, he incited my friends and acquaintance to do their vttermost, to win me from my constant resolution, hoping in regard of the great distance and separation from my countrey, and what by the want and necessitie I endured in France, with my aged constitution of bodie, I would retire from that place and end my age in Portugal, where I began my youth: attempting afterwards by rating & reuiling to make me recant, when other prouocations would not preuaile. All which intisements mixt with bitter taunts, moued me nothing at all: and at this instant if I would vouchsafe acceptance, I might receiue the same entertainement before offered. It is not yet two yeares past sithence a very deare friend of mine in this towne prest me with vehement pẽrswasions to returne into Portugale, assuring me of as much aduancement there as I would desire: but God forbid, that euer I should accept it, for I had rather be a poore religious beggar in France, then a great discontented Bishop in Castile, or in Portugale: considering the countrey is not it selfe, but in bondage, most seruilly subiect to Castilian tyrannie. In this towne a nobleman of France, in the presence of diuers Princes of the Blood, accompanied with some religious men of mine

owne

owne order, often perswaded me to leaue the habit of S. Dominicke, and betake me to another, assuring me in liew therof an Abbey (which he had in his power at that time to giue) & afterward a couēt of 8 or 9 thousand liners annuall rent: and to make me capable thereof, he promised to procure me a dispensation from his Holinesse, to allow the exchange of my present habite. All which bountifull proffers could not once moue me to change my shape, like a mutable weather-cocke, or an airie Camelion. For if the spirit of God forsake me not, I will die as I haue liued, a religious votarie to S. Dominicke, and a naturall Portugal: and the same blessed stabilitie possesse all those that seeke and spred my reproch and defamation; and to those that make a scorne of me, I answer nothing, but that I am a true religious Portugale, of the same disposition that other my countrimen be: I meane the godly, vertuous, and loyall Portugals. Neither wil I admit any for my associates in this case, but such as be most intirely sincere and constant. So I end my present narration in the name of God, and purpose to proceed to the handling of my promised discourse: which, albeit I cannot so exactly relate, as I desire (not being an eye-witnes of all that hath bene done and suffered by this miserable king my Lord and master) I haue gathered out of the greatest probabilities and assertions of the iustest and honestest, that I could possibly learne or vnderstand, that were able to giue me the best intelligence: which diligence I was bound in dutie and conscience to exercise, and am withall inforced by the importunitie of many (meeting me in the towne and field at euery corner) to discourse vnto them my maisters aduentures. Therefore to satisfie them and all the world, and to meete with their tedious inquisitions, I haue effected this collection, to rid my selfe of trouble, and to quench their inordinate thirst after the truth,

referring all that can reade, to this and my former discourse of Admirable aduentures.

Farewell.

The Narration.

AT my being in Venice (gentle Reader) I vnderſtood by diuerſe, that the opinion conceiued of many, and the rumor commonly ſpred concerning the death of *Dom Sebaſtian* the king of Portugal, my Lord and Maiſter, was falſe: and beleeued rather, that their reports were more like to be true, that maintained the contrarie. For that it was confidently iuſtified by credible perſons, that he was ſeene aliue and ſafe ſince the battell in Africke: namely, by *Cid Albequerine*, *Emanuell Texer* my Vncle, *N. Murſelo Higuera*, and many other Gentlemen and perſonages of great qualitie and account. He eſcaped by flight among the route, being ſore hurt in his head and in one arme, and paſſed as a priuate man to his ſhips, and was embarqued amongſt the remnant of his armie, that ſaued themſelues by flight, as he was forced to do. After a few daies he arriued in Portugale in a towne called *Neu feu de mille fuentes*, neare vnto *S. Vincents* Cape, where he refreſhed himſelfe, and ſent for a Chirurgian from Faro: his name I haue forgotten (but well I remember he was reckened excellent in his Art.) There the king ſoiourned, accompanied with the Duke of Aneiro, and *Chriſtopher Tauora*, and diuerſe other Lords, vntill he was perfectly healed. The tidings of his being at the Cape were ſodainly ſpred at Lisbon, and was ſoon publiſhed generally throughout all Portugal. And it was affirmed, that he was ſeene at the Couent of Capuchins (built vpon the point of *S. Vincent*) amongſt his companions. This rumor was ſoone quailed by the policie and authoritie of *Petro de Alcaçoua*, great Secretarie of Portugal, in the behalfe of *Dom Philip* king of Spaine, with whom he had before-hand concluded, when *Dom Sebaſtian* the king employed him in Embaſſage into Spaine, before his departure into Africke. And for that cauſe this *Petro Alcaçoua* (a damnable Politician and a monſtrous traitour) as ſoone as the firſt newes came, that the Chriſtians had loſt the day, and his King and Maiſter ſlaine, this Iew gaue ſecret intelligence to the king of Caſtill of all that happened: ſignifying vnto him, that nowe

were

were a fit time to surprise the kingdome of Portugall, and bid him make readie for the purpose. I respected the handling of the second establishment of vnion betweene the king my maister before his departure, and the king of Castile, which is expressed by one *Conneſtay* at large; who being a man of good respect in Portugal, came post to seeke me from Rome to Venice, and amongst many other newes, he reported vnto me, that as soone as euer it was bruted abroad in Portugall, that *Dom Sebastian* the king was liuing, and prisoner in Venice, there were many deuises reuiued concerning this brute, that long time before lay buried. And withall you must note, that *Dom Diego de Sosa* the Admirall, which conducted the king into Africke, re-embarqued him from thence into Portugall againe, and gaue continual intelligence vnto his kindred and assured friends, that their king was liuing, and that he had secretly receiued him a boord, among the scattered troupes, and gaue them an especial charge, that they should conceale it. And further, that he gaue him a secret signe, whereby he might know him hereafter, if need required: which priuitie, *Dom Diego* discouered vnawares, when a counterfeit (suborned for the purpose) came to that *Diegoes* house, sending for him into the field to come home to speake with *Dom Sebastian* the king: to whom he said abruptly: Hath he deliuered any secret token betwixt him and me, whereby I might credite thee? By which question he published that, which he secretly had bewrayed before to his allies. Whereupon the Cardinall *Dom Henry*, great Vncle to the king, tooke occasion to send a trustie seruant of his, called *Emanuel Antunes*, to *S. Vincents* Cape, charging him to vse all the industrie he might, in finding out what certaintie he could learn of the king his Nephew. All which, this *Emanuel* performed, with as much indeuour as he might possibly vse: and by his diligent inquisition about the said Cape, found that the king had bene in the Monasterie: and was there certified, that he was both hurt in the head and arme, and in a manner franticke, not onely for the exceeding anguish and vexation of mind which he suffered for the losse of victorie, but withall the shame did euer perplexe him, when he considered the ouerthrow came by

indiſcretion and raſhneſſe, and that by his default the flower and prime of all Portugal, was defeated and cut off. *Antunes* brought a very large teſtimoniall hereof to the Cardinall vnder the ſeale of the father Gardian, and all the reſt of his brethren of the ſaid Monaſterie: which the Cardinal receiued with his owne hands, commaunding his ſeruant to impart this ſecret to none, which he for his owne part buried in his own boſome. And not being able to find out what courſe his Nephew and his companie tooke for their eſcape out of the countrie, gaue ouer the expectation of his recouery either of his crown and ſcepter while he liued, though it were his due. But when it was knowne in Portugal that the K. liued, *Antunes* begã to acknowledge the paines he had vndergone in theſe affaires, by his maſters appointment: which was no ſooner conueyed to the king of Caſtiles eare, but he ſent for this *Antunes*, of whom he had a liberall relation of all that he knew concerning that buſineſſe: and ſoone after *Antunes* his returne into Portugall, he died. Whereby it appeareth vnto me, that God lengthened his life ſome ſpace, to reueale a truth, that ſeemed before to be very intricate and doubtfull. Shortly after the Portugals began to murmure among themſelues, boldly ſaying, that *D. Philip* the king had made away *Dom Sebaſtian* their king (his Nephew) going to him to craue his aide before his departure into Africke, becauſe he had a meaning to gaine the kingdome of Portugall to him and his ſucceſſours, and hold it by vſurpation. And this ſcandall was neuer extinguiſhed, becauſe fame diuulged his arriuing at the Cape called *S. Vincent*, and no certainty appeared to the world, what way he paſſed from thence. But ſince it is proued, that frõ Spaine he got ſhipping and trauelled into Alexandria, and there liued in *Preſter Iohns* Court with his followers, ſome twentie moneths, vnknowne of what qualitie he was, profeſſing that he had a deſire to ſee the world, and trauelled onely to that end and purpoſe: for of want he made no ſhew, he and his company being well furniſhed with gold and iewels of great price. From Aethiopia they paſſed ouer the red ſea, and ſo directly to the mount Sinay; from thence to the great *Sophi* called *Xatama* king of Perſia, whom he ſerued as a Commaunder fiue or ſixe

yeares

yeares against the Turkes, where he atchieued many victories, and diuerse wounds in his bodie, with much honour and reputation. In requitall whereof, the king of Persia did him many honorable offices, and gaue him rich presents of inestimable price, with the which he and his companie departed. I heard at Venice of his conference with Colonel *Cigogna*, a man of great experience in the warres, which assured the Lords of the Senat, that he neuer talked with any man more wise, learned, or better experienced in Militarie discipline, then this noble person: and he protested he could be no other, then the same he professed to be. The excellent and most reuerend Lord the Archbishop said, he heard the discourse between the King and the Colonel, which delighted him exceedingly. This Archbishop I could not speake withall at my being in Venice, for that he was employed in Dalmatia in the affaires of the State.

The King leauing Persia, went towards Ierusalē, frō whence he trauelled by firme land to Constantinople: which after certaine dayes he left, and came into Italie, from thence to Hungarie, and from thence fetched a compasse by Muscouie, Poland, Swedland, and Denmarke, where he tooke shipping for England: and in London it is reported he saw *D. Antonio* the supposed king of Portugal. From England he passed into Holland; from Holland by Almaine backe to Antwerpe: therehence to Paris, *anno* 1586. It comes to my memorie, that in the latter end of the same yeare, one *Antonio Fernandes Pignero*, a Prieſt, which had sometime bene Amner to the said *Dom Sebastian*, &c. and was with me in seruice from the said Lord *D. Antonio*, told me that the same *Dom Antonio*, had heard it credibly reported, that *Dom Sebastian* the King was liuing, &c. whereat *D. Antonio* seemed to be sore amazed and perplexed. About which time I craued licence of *D. Antonio* to go out of England into this countrie, which he gaue with some shew of discontentment therewith. By reason whereof, and to auoid all suspition, I moued no question to him concerning the particularitie of this matter; and I must tell you by the way, that *Pignero* had all this discourse in writing *sub sigillo confessionis*, which although (said he) I make the same knowne vnto you, yet I

pray you conceale it from *D. Antonio*, becauſe it may be very preiudiciall to him of whom I heard it. In the yeare following after Eaſter, in the time of Ember, when I was come to that towne, whither I made the ſcope of my iourney, I heard the like concerning the ſame buſineſſe which I before had heard in England, whereof I ſeemed to make no great care: and comming to Paris, after his Chriſtian Maieſtie had entred the town, *D. Nouuelet* aſſured me in the preſence of diuers Portugals and French men, not once nor twiſe, but many times, that it was as certaine and aſſured that *D. Sebaſtian* (King of Portugale) had bene lately in Paris, as he ſpake to me: deſcribing him to me by many circumſtances: to all which I gaue no credite, eſteeming all he ſaid to be meere fables. Not that I held any opinion or conceit that he was ſlaine at the battell in Africke, but my imagination could not receiue any impreſſion that he could be guiltie of any ſuch rare diſſimulation to paſſe ſo many cities and regions without diſcouerie.

The laſt yeare writing to the ſaid Doctor to *Anniſſi* where he dwelt, of theſe newes which I heard, that my Lord and maiſter ſhould be ſet a libertie by the conſent of the Siegniorie of Venice: I intreated him to write vnto me at large, that which he had oft recited to me in this town, concerning the eſtate of that King. And becauſe his anſwer was, that he could not agree to the ſatisfaction of my demaunds, I ceaſed to importune him any further in that behalfe. But foraſmuch as at my being at Venice, ſome of the chiefeſt of the Siegniorie of that State, asking me if I were able to ſay any thing concerning that the King had anſwered vpon his examination: ſaying, that he had bene in Paris, and there conferred with a Portugale fled out of his countrey for *D. Antonioes* cauſe, being his coſin. And further, that he met with a gentlemã of Swiſſer-land at Soleurre, departing from thẽce towards Anniſſi, by whom I ſent a letter to *D. Nouuelet*: in the which I moſt inſtantly deſired him to ſet downe in writing all that he had declared to me at Paris, concerning my maiſter *D. Sebaſtiã*, &c. At my great importunity it pleaſed him to grant me my deſire, and here I haue annexed the ſame, copied out verbatim, as it was written, in maner and forme, with the recommendations

mendations he assigned me to do to his friends, (named in the same originall) men of good esteeme for birth, office, and popular affectation. So that to his truth and sinceritie no man can take exception, being a professor in his art, both very learned and excellently experienced, in his life and manners neuer detected. Therefore all suspition either of the matter or the man is preuented.

The copie of a Letter sent from D. Nouuelet *to Fr.* Ioseph Texere.

SIR, I receiued your last Letter dated the eighteenth of the moneth past: whereby you make me recal to mind the griefe I conceiued by your letters preceding, concerning the troubles of *Emanuell Godigno*, a Gentleman, borne in Portugale. I had long since expressed in writing, and sent it you, if I had cõiectured your disposition had bene apt to entertaine newes. So ready and willing I am to applie my endeuours to do you seruice, in any thing you shall please to commaund me: but the consideration of your rare perfection of memorie, made me decline from doubt of any defect therein, and so much the slower in committing that to writing, which I had before so obseruantly vttered in your hearing, and in the presence of many persons of good respect, aswell of your countrey, as of other nations: imputing this imposition rather to your desire to be better assured, *Obsignatis tabulis*, then to any want of cariage in your vnderstanding parts, I thus addresse my pen to confirme my tongues discourse. In the yeare of our Lord 1588. being at Nance, in employment and seruice of my Lord the Cardinall of Gondic, about the affaires of my Lord the Bishop of Paris, his nephew, that was called Abbot of Buzai; I tooke vp my lodging in the couent of the Iacobins, where I found good oportunitie to ingraft my selfe in the fauour and friendship of the reuerend father *D. Sampayo*, a man much commended for his liberall erudition in letters, but recommended for his integritie and zeale, one of your owne order, and of your ancient and approued acquaintance, and being

both godly and learned, vnited in more assured bonds of loue and amitie, then are exercised among the vulgar. Meane while that league of friendship then planted betweene that good *D'. Sampayo* and me, tooke so good roote in vs both, as it continueth without perill of supplanting til this day: and is like for your sake to fructifie aboundantly, as well by increase of loue, as of acquaintance with many other noble gentlemen of good sort and condition. Among the rest of the ordinary frequenters, came *S'. Emmanuell Godigno*, to visite Doctor *Sampayo* at my lodging, and taking some acquaintance of me, continued the same as long as I lay in Nance: till I retired towards Paris, leauing to my great sorrow the sweete conuersation betwixt Doctor *Sampayo* and my selfe, louing each other dearely. This *Godigno* loth to let slip out of vse, the complements that had past betweene him and me at Nance, at his comming to Paris frequented my lodging daily, to vnderstand of Doctor *Sampayoes* health and welfare: whereof I not being able to giue him any certaine intelligence, he began to mourne and looke heauily, whom I could not chuse but in that passion to accompanie, enuying any mans affection should exceed mine in zeale to my friend. It followed that, vpon a sunday (in what moneth I remember not) this *S'. Godigno* receiued the Communion very deuoutly, ministred by the chiefe of the *Iacobins*, which made me refraine for that time to salute him, or he me: for in truth I thinke he saw me not, and I not willing to interrupt his deuotion, let him passe without any ceremonie on my part performed. Notwithstanding, the same afternoone he repaired to my lodging, and as his custome was, demaunded what tidings I heard of his friend and mine Doctor *Sampayo*: and I hauing no better meanes to informe him then before, desired him to excuse my ignorance being vnable to giue him any contentment by intelligence of him, or from him. At which answer, the kind gentleman seemed very pensiue and appaled, sitting still a long while mute and silent: whereby I imagined he had somwhat that inwardly distempered him, for I might perceiue the teares trickle downe his cheekes. Which perturbation breaking out at his eyes, afforded him some libertie to vtter these words following: *Sir, I consider*

the

the great loue that was betwixt Doctor Sampayo *and you, that manifestly appeared to me at Nance: & withal, the confidence he reposed in your fidelitie towards him; which perswades me, that I cannot commit a secret matter of great consequence to a man that can more assuredly conceale it then your selfe. And I doubt not but the same shall be as safely guarded in the treasurie of your constancie, as in his, if you will vouchsafe to giue me your vnfained promise so to do.* Whereunto I answered: *Sir, if it be a secret neuer as yet by you reuealed to any man but vnto me, you may boldly speake it: but if you haue alreadie trusted any man, or shall hereafter declare the same to any other, it may so fall out, that you may lay some other mans deserued blame to my charge. Therefore in this doubtfull case I beseech you trust your selfe, and tell me nothing: for I will not haue you ransacke your inclosure vpon my protestation, although I presume so much vpon your honest sinceritie, being a Gentleman both honest and religious, you wil vtter nothing vnto me, that shall not be like your selfe: considering beside, I haue seene you this day participate a sound mystery, most reuerently and deuoutly among the Iacobins, which assures me, that you cannot produce any thing out of your mouth either prophane or wicked.* Whereunto he replied, that he was expressly prepared to receiue the holy Communion vpon this day, to the end God might inspire him with the vnderstanding, what was fittest for him to do in this case, and resolued absolutely to tell it me, that I might disclose it to Doctor *Sampayo*, fearing least he might die, burdened with so great a secret, as concerned the good of all Christendome, holding his conscience greatly charged with the weight thereof, coniuring me seriously to deliuer it safe to Doctor *Sampayo*: meane while if it please God to take him out of this transitorie world, it might be lawfull for me to publish it openly before my death. This and such other like speeches being ended, he began to vnbosome his conceit, in this manner: It was my chaunce to meete with a Gentleman in this towne, my countriman, betweene the which and me there had bene auncient amitie: after many dayes conference at secret meetings, he told me that *Dom Sebastian* the King of Portugale was not dead: wherat the said *Godigno* seemed to be astonished, and said, he did not beleeue it, vntil he had seene him aliue with

his owne eyes, and then (said he) I may haue reason to be of your mind. Which the other promised should be effected, and to that purpose caried him to dinner to the house where *Dom Sebastian* was lodged, which was as I remember in S. *Iames* his streete, or in harpe streete; whether the first or second day, or shortly after he had vsed to that place, he could not certainely name the time, but a friend of his a Portugal came and inquired at the house for *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugal: and as he was comming vp the stayers, *Godigno* hasted downe the stayers to stop his passage, and tooke occasion to carie away his friend, faining some other affaires with him because he would preuent the King from discouery, who was very iealous of publicke notice. But the morrow after, the same gentleman came againe about his former businesse, and inquired earnestly for the King, and being there denied him, ceased not to aske of euery one he met throughout all the citie for *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugale, but not preuailing at all, he fell into an extreme agonie, and desisted not from inquisition, to litle purpose: and surprised with great care what to do, was at length inspired with a motion fro God to professe a solitarie life, and take vpon him the habit of an hermite: so, being disguised trauelled towards Spaine, and arriuing at the Court, made meanes to speake with the Catholicke King, saying, that he had matters of great importance to reueale vnto him, and to none but the King. And after long attendance, he was admitted to the Kings presence to haue audience, to whom he protested he had lately seene *Dom Sebastian* in Paris, and confirmed it by many signes and tokens of veritie. The King presently forbad him by any meanes to vtter it to any man liuing, and willed him to go abroade euery where to search out and discouer what he might possibly, allowing him present money to beare his charges, deliuering him a letter to *D. Bernardin Mendoza*, then his ledger Ambassador in France, to giue him any money he should haue cause to vse, not signifying vnto him for what cause or intent: and thereupon he shewed me letters, which made the matter euident that he had bene in Spaine, as is aforesaid, but for the particularities of the said letters I do not well remember, but that I hold my selfe satisfied thereby

that

that he had bene in Spaine, &c. but to continue his tale, he told he had trauelled so long that his money being well wasted he was forced to go to *Mendoſa*, to be ſupplied in his neceſſitie, to whom when he would not reueale the cauſe of his comming into thoſe parts, and hauing letters of intelligence out of Spaine from ſome great man that he ſhould deliuer that *Godigno* no more money, being but an impoſtor and a deluder, as they termed him, *Mendoſa* was ſoone confirmed in that parſimonie, intending before to ſhut vp his liberalitie and to giue him neuer a deneere: at which deniall this *Godigno* began to lament and burſt forth into bitter teares: as I iudge his lamentation was becauſe he was croſt and preuented for comming to the type of his enterpriſe.

In the end, proteſting before God and his Angels, and by vertue of that holy Sacrament he had that day receiued, that all that he had vttered to me was true: in the end without proteſtation of beleeuing or ſhew of incredulitie, I promiſed him my ſecrecie, as he deſired: ſome few daies after this conference, he returned vnto me as he vſed to do, inquiring what news I heard of father *Sampayo*: to whom I anſwered, I vnderſtood of him no more then before. Meane while, I was (as it were) diſtracted in conceit, ſeeing this Gentlemans relation a paradoxe aduerſe to the fame and vulgar opinion of *Dom Sebaſtians* death: and weying this Gentlemans integritie, zeale, and communication with the Iacobins, could not in my cõſcience condẽne him for a lier. But whether it were true or falſe, according to my promiſe I concealed it (though it were in ſome ſort an offence ſo to do). It came to paſſe in ſome litle ſpace after, in the houſe of an Apothecarie, dwelling in the ſuburbes called *S. Germaine*, neare the gate (whoſe houſe was razed at the ſiege of Paris) that this man died. Here is all that I can ſay concerning this ſubiect, which I neuer opened to any man ſauing to Doctor *Sampayo*, which was a good while after, but the time I do not iuſtly remember: and one cauſe why I was loth to ſpeak of it, was, for that I was afraid to be thought deluded. And me thinks this I haue written vnto you may ſeeme very ſtrange, notwithſtanding the cõmon report at this houre is, that *Dom Sebaſtian* was ſeene aliue two yeares

after he was detained in Venice: but I tell ye, the greater part of the world suppose, that he is a counterfeit, suborned, &c. God knowes what he is, who euer send you happie and long life: so with my humble recommendations to your reuerend self, I leaue you. From Annisi the last of September, anno 1601.

I forgot to tell you, that *Emmanuel Godigno* added to that before mentioned; that the Catholicke King gaue him in especiall charge to tell *Dom Sebastian*, that the Catholike King requested him by any meanes to hasten his returne without delay to him, desiring nothing so much as to render him the possession of his Realme and kingdome, and to bestow his eldest daughter vpon him in mariage.

I am farther to desire you of so much fauour, as to send me these bookes from Lions here mentioned in a catalogue, inclosed in this letter, and I will faithfully repay whatsoeuer you shall lay out to that purpose. Here follow the titles: All the workes you can find, *De regno Christi temporali*. I beseech you salute for me *Monsieur le Feure*, recommending my faithfull seruice vnto him: of whom if it please you, you may craue assistance in my businesse, for he is a man, *multæ lectionis*.

Good Lord! I had forgotten my dutie to *Monsieur de Tyron*, to *Monsieur Pellejay*, to *Monsieur de Marnay*, and to my louing frieds of Amboise, three brethrē, reckning my self much bound to them all: notwithstanding, I feare they little trouble themselues with the thinking vpon so meane a man as my selfe, and this conceit halfe dismaies me to trouble you so far as to recommend me in all humilitie to my Lord Bishop of Eureux. Whatsoeuer you shall thinke conuenient to performe in my behalfe, either to adde or diminish, I referre to your discretion.

Your most humble seruant,
CL. D. Nouueler.

The superscription.
To M. *Texere* Portugueze, Counsellor and Amner to the King, &c.

A Declaration.

THe King *D. Sebastian* departing from Paris trauelled thorough Fraunce directly into Italy: and I know not who followed him, or where he forsooke his companie, but most assured I am, he resolued to giue ouer the pompe and glorie of the world, and to retire himselfe to liue priuatly; and being in Dalmatia, he made choise of an hermitage for his habitation, contenting him therewith in liew of his former princely palace. This poore hermitage was situated on the top of a mountaine, neare the citie of Lesine, where he abode for the space of three yeares: in the issue of which time there arriued a ship of Portugale, from whence some passengers going a pilgrimage to that hermitage, seeing the King, knew him incontinently, and said aloud: *Behold, yonder is our King Dom Sebastian*; and spread this rumour presently about the citie. The King perceiuing that he was discouered, grew much displeased therewith, and vpon that discontentment, determined with himselfe to forsake the place, (to the great crucifying of my soule, for there he liued in great tranquilitie of mind with no lesse consolation) being in a bodily feare least the Portugals should come thither and search for him, he thought good to go: and before he went from Lesine, he distributed all his moueables and houshold-stuffe amongst his friends: three of the which comming to Venice were called before the Senate, before whom they confirmed al which the said King confessed vpon his first examination touching his estate and accidents in those quarters. The Senators called them to come before the King face to face in open view of the whole Senate and assistants, and they knew one another very well; and one of them brought a picture with him, which the King had left behind him, vpon the which was painted, Iesus Christ crucified, with *S. Sebastian* and *S. Anthonie* of Padua. And this act is so common in Venice, that they talke thereof without controlement.

The King departed from Lesine wandring here and there, seeking some conuenient place to retire himselfe into, fit for his

deſigne, lodged himſelfe in a mountaine neare Piſa, where he ſpent his time as you ſhall heare. He had hoſe, and what elſe I know not, but no hat, nor other neceſſary thing that might ſerue inſtead thereof: by reaſon whereof you muſt needs imagine his complexion of force muſt alter, which from ſwart became black, his haire grew long, but not vnſeemely, for he vſed to cut it: his garments were of courſe cloth, and his food herbes, rootes, and fiſhes, which were giuen him for Gods ſake: he frequented the citie, where, the firſt moneths of his arriuall, he gaue monie towards the dowries and mariages of poore maidens, and at his owne charge deliuered many out of priſon, diſcharging their debts. And hauing diſtributed all he had for God ſake, he was faine to receiue again for God-ſake, and took that in good part which was giuen him in the towne, onely to ſerue the neceſſities of his perſon, which were few, conſidering the auſteritie of his diet and hard penance which he willingly indured, releeuing priſoners with the ſurpluſage of his poore fortunes, if he had any, to whom he did many ſeruices by his trauell & labor, to diſpatch their buſines whenſoeuer they requeſted him. One reported vnto me, that he had many charitable almes at a Portugales houſe in the towne, who miniſtred vnto him clothes and other neceſſaries, without knowledge what he was, or where he was borne: which he by his owne confeſſion tooke very thankfully. The like befell him in *S. Alexis*, where he afterward arriued: and after in Ediſſe a citie in Syria, he receiued benеuolence of his owne ſeruants, that wandred almoſt through the habitable parts of the world to ſeeke him.

After he had remained certaine yeares in theſe mountaines, there appeared a viſion vnto him by night, wherein he thought God commaunded him to repaire home into his owne kingdome, and leaue this deſolate and ſolitarie life, and abandon both hermitage and mountaines: but afterward miſliking his former opinion, he begã to ſuſpect the ſame apparitiõ to be diabolicall, or meere fantaſticall, and reuoked that purpoſe for to proceed in his iourney homeward: but a very old man dwelling neare vnto him in the foreſaid deſolate place, with whom he liued in a great league of amitie, becauſe he was a vertuous man,

exerciſing

exerciſing himſelf wholy in deuotion and prayer, made him reuoke that vnreuerent conceipt of his viſion; ſaying that it was a good and a godly motion, and therfore could not proceed from an ill ſpirit: and therefore a godly and a diuine viſion, and perſwaded him to do his indeuour, to execute that, which therein was giuen him in charge.

The King liſtened vnto this old mans aduice, and ſo much the rather, for that he diſcouered vnto him before many ſtrange things, and foretold many matters that he had ſeene take euent according to his prediuination. Whereupon the King wiping away the teares from his cheekes, which his wofull heart had ſent outward as meſſengers of ſecret ſorow, tooke his leaue of his fellow in affliction, like one depriued (by griefe) of ready vſe both of reaſon and iudgement. So, abruptly leauing his louing friend and religious companion, trotted onwards of his iourney from one place to another, vntill he came to Meſſine a citie in Cicile. In which place it is ſuppoſed he had left (paſſing that way before) ſome peeces of gold and iewels of value, which to recouer, to ſerue his preſent turne, and to furniſh him in good ſort, he was forced to diſcouer himſelf to his companions, from whom he had ſtolne long before.

In this voyage he ſent *Marco Tullio Catizzone* into Portugale, with diuerſe letters, to many perſons of qualitie (as is ſaid before in my Treatiſe called *Admirable aduentures.*) And at Meſſine he ſhipt himſelfe in a Gally belonging to his Holines, bound for Genua, being fraught with ſilkes, & afterward came to Ciuita Vecchia. From whence without any delay he poſted to Rome, and was lodged neare vnto *S. Peters* Church, where as he was ſleeping in his chamber, he was robbed by certaine of his ſeruaunts, whom he had newly entertained into his ſeruice, not long after his comming to Rome. And very neare as ſhortly after my departure therehence, hearing of the rumour, I ſent to a friend of mine there, to giue me intelligence of the certainty of theſe tydings. Who ſent me word that he had bene at his lodging, and ſpake with his hoſteſſe, being a widow, and with her children and ſeruants, which reported all that had paſt in that buſineſſe, ſaying they well diſcerned by his

behauiour, that he was some honourable personage, or some very great Lord, and said they were very much grieued with the infortunate rumour that was spread there, that he was declared to be *Dom Sebastian* the true King of Portugale; which by his grauitie and maiesticall behauior assured them no lesse, then that he was some great Prince.

Conferring this I now learned, with these circumstances collected before in this countrie, and afterward confirmed at Venice, any man may be well assured that this report was true. At Venice one shewed me an inuentorie, written with his owne hand, of those parcels of treasure that had bene stolne from him: amongst the rest there was a chaine of gold garnished with precious stones; which the great Sophi presented him, with a diamond of great value, and rings with precious stones most exquisitly set, with many other peeces of good estimation and value. And while he was distempered for the losse of these iewels, he mist certaine papers, the purports whereof were of great importance: all which were slipperily conueyed away; which being kept had bene direct testimonies to serue his turne, in the doubtfull opinions of them that were to trie and sift him, whether he were the same *Dom Sebastian* he pretended to be. And hauing vnderstanding of some ambushmēt laid to intrap him by the passage of Vmbrie, he altered his course and went by Narne; and when he came thither, and heard no newes of his enemies in his way, he went forward by Tarne: where he had intelligence that his Holinesse would go to our Ladies of Laret. Then he addressed his iourney to that place directly; and when he came to Neuuaine, he vnderstood his Holines had changed his purpose, and was resolued to go by Bologne, and so to Ferrara: the King after his deuotion ended, bent his trauel towards Bologne. Whither when he came sore wearied and tired miserably, he heard of another alteration, that his Holinesse by meanes of some sicknesse that came vpon him so dainly, had no intent once to budge from Rome, being forced to keep his chamber. This tossing and reeling to no purpose, troubled the poore King exceedingly, hauing broken the necke of his designes: not knowing then what way to take, thought with himself to go some way at aventure,

ture, not resoluing vpon any one, his fortunes grew so variable: at the last he directly past to a village, which belongs to the Count of Verone, in the mid-way to Mantoue, which some call Nogara. And when he came to that borough, a strange imagination possessed him, that one violently withstood him, for going any further that way. Then, he supposing himselfe to haue day-light inough to guide him to Mantoue, was contented to be checked in the other passage; finding his mind assailed with a thousand variable cogitations, which so afflicted him, that he could not vtter any one period of his vexations, to him that accompanied him. Al this time I had no certain report of the kings being in that place: which is the cause I made no mention of the day, as I vsed to do of his other passages.

The king being at Mantoue told a Gentleman of Lorete, that when he was at our Ladies there, he named himselfe, *Iuan Poeta*. This Gentleman being entred into very good termes of amitie with the King, did him many kind fauours and courtesies, entertaining him at his lodging in the best sort he could deuise: and shortly after accompanied him to Ferrara, where he apparelled the King in silkes and veluet. Shortly after this Gentleman had performed these offices to the King, his vrgent businesse called him from that place: but before he went, he conducted the King to his tailers house, and there tooke order for the supplying of his wants, and gaue great charge for his speciall entertainment, willing his host to call him *Ioanne Baptista Sartori della contrada de Santa Maria la Fratra*. This man was of good yeares, very vertuous and rich, into whose house the King entred the fourth of October, anno 1597. In which yeare, the King vnderstanding the Pope was to make his entrie into Ferrara; accompanied with this tayler, about the first of May set forward towards the same citie: whither when the King came and found not his Holines there, he determined then to attend his comming. In which space the King confessed himselfe to Frier *Alonso*, a religious professor of my order, a man of great vertue and sinceritie (but very simple) who thinking to do well, did that which fell out to be very ill, in reporting to diuers Nobles and Gentlemen, that *Dom Sebastian* the King of Portugale was in the citie, attending the

preſence of his Holineſſe: and as it hapneth, that one euil ſeldom comes alone, the tayler being acquainted with a gentleman of Portugale (whoſe name I know not, ſome called him *Baron*) this Gentleman the tayler conducted home to the Kings lodging to diner. This Portugale ſitting at the table, often beheld the King aduiſedly as he ſate at meate, and obſerued him in euery reſpect. Soone after dinner was done, the King roſe and departed to his chamber. After his retire the Gentleman ſaid to his hoſteſſe, and the reſt of the company that dined with them, the tailor alſo being preſent: *Gentlemen* (ſaid he) *this Gentleman that ſate here at diner amongſt vs, is ſurely* D. Sebaſtian *the King of Portugal. I am that countriman and know him well, for I haue ſeene him many times before his departure into Africke to warre againſt the Infidels. All we Portugals hold it for an aſſured veritie, that he eſcaped at that time very ſore hurt, and that he was ſeene afterward in Portugale, from whence he fled, but how or what way we could neuer yet learne.* The tailor no ſooner heard theſe words, but he went preſently and told them to the king. This ſpeech much offended the king, and grieued him not a litle; and withall, remembring that Frier *Alonſo* had in his meere ſimplicitie betrayed him: and moreouer, conſidering that the King of Caſtiles Agent was aduertiſed that he was in that citie, and plotted againſt him, being in great feare what euill might happen vnto him, reſolued preſently to ſteale away ſecretly, without taking leaue either of hoſt, confeſſor, or taylor.

This diſcourſe the tailor himſelfe vttered vnto me, with many other particularities, in the temple of *S. Silueſter* in Verona, confirming the ſame in his owne houſe afterward, with the effuſion of abundant teares running downe his cheekes and beard, with ſuch zealous lamentation, as he inforced me to accompanie him in the ſelfeſame manner of grieuing. He told me alſo that he remained in his houſe with him ſeuen moneths at the leaſt, and was attended on by his daughter, being a faire yong maiden: and in all that while he proteſted the King did not once looke directly in her face, commending him for his temperate, affable, and exceeding vertuous behauiour, and that he obſerued his faſts very ſeuerely, praying almoſt continually: and ſaid farther

ther vnto me weeping: *Father, I feare that Prince is much iniured: I beseech the Almightie God to preserue him: O that it were lawfull for me, and for his safetie, that I might keepe him within my simple habitation, not as he is a Prince, but in respect of his bountie and honour: and if I should happen to die before him, I could leaue him sufficient to liue on all the dayes of his life.* Truſt me the ſimplicitie of this poore old man, pleaſed me exceedingly, and induced me the rather to beleeue him. He alſo informed me by what title the Senate of Venice called him, and inquired of him if euer he entertained him in his houſe, and whether his anſwers to diuers interrogatories were true or not, and whether all that he told the Lords were true or falſe? To which he anſwered iuſtly and failed not a iot; and he maintained him to be the true King of Portugale, hauing many reaſons ſo to perſwade him: the one was the confident aſſertion of the Portugal gentleman that dined in his company at Ferrara, ſaying he departed out of Portugal ſecretly, yet proued by many circumſtances: and this old man aſſiſted me much when the Senate conuented him before them, asking him how long he kept companie with him before he came to Ferrara, and whether he were the ſame man that lodged in his houſe. Then he kneeled downe before his feete, embracing them, and looking towards the Senate, ſaid: *This is* Dom Sebaſtian *King of Portugale, which lodged in my houſe: whom afterward I accompanied to Ferrara.* And when the king was asked of the Iudges, whether he knew that old man or no: he anſwered, that he had neuer ſeen him before this day. At which anſwer, the old man told me he was more perplexed, then he was with his ſudden departure from him at Ferrara, and wept moſt bitterly. I muſt excuſe the king for thus confuting the old man before the Senate, for that he vnderſtood at Venice and Padua, a litle after he departed from the preſence of the Senate, that they had ſtraightly impriſoned and puniſhed one *Monſieur Ieronimo* at Venice, for entertaining him into his houſe, and had puniſhed diuers other for doing him the like fauour. And the King fearing that the like rigour might be offered this ſilly old man, made him to diſclaime his acquaintance: which the King vpon his returne to priſon, reuealed incõtinently to Count *Cæſar Martinengo*, to Count *Charles* his bro-

ther, and diuers other his fellow prisoners. *And the Lords said vnto me, they called me to see one* Iohn Baptista Sartori de Verona, *and asked me if I knew him; and for that I was much bound to this good old man, for many good offices done vnto me, and for that I saw it turned them al to displeasure, that did me any good, I answered for his safetie, that I knew him not, nor had euer seene him: which the poore old man digests very heauily: and if any good friend would but deliuer this my excuse vnto him, I wil acknowlege my self much bound to him for that friendly courtesie.* The selfe same act in the like words, a Cannon of Bresse reported vnto me, meeting me in that city, accõpanying me as far as Lac, hapning to speake of the king, and of the opinion that was deliuered of them generally that had seene him: that it was thought verily he was *D. Sebastian* the king most assuredly, not knowing me to be any fauorer of his proceedings: telling me that al he knew of the matter, he heard of these Counts and gentlemen that were in prison with him, for the space of fiue moneths: whereof he recited vnto me many particulars: and this Cannon (as I take it) was called *De Lone*: so after long conference the night approching, I tooke my leaue of him, &c.

The King departing from Ferrara, held on his way to Padua, and being there, he thought it fit he should attend the answer of his letters he sent into Portugale by *Marco Tullio Catizzone*: his deuotion performed to *S. Anthony*, he determined to go to Venice, where all these things happened vnto him, which we haue alreadie reported in the former treatise, intituled, *Admirable Aduentures, &c.* as you may reade in a letter sent to me from *Iohn de Castro*; & in that, which the king wrote to his Holinesse: where it is at large specified, how he was betraied into the hands of the Castilians, by one of his owne seruants for reward, and so committed to prison. This trecherous varlet being conuinced and reproued by some of the Kings friends, that had vnderstanding of his perfidious seruice, being already bought and corrupted with a few pence, following the periured faction like a maisterlesse curre, fell into the art of slandering, and banding against his loyall maister with hote pursute, and vehement accusations, as sodomie, cosinage, in prison and abroade. Notwithstanding all this villanie, God that weyes all mens causes in equall ballance, will

not

not suffer his seruants euer to quaile vnder the burden of iniquitie: the hearing of his cause was committed to *S. Marco Quirini*, which was at that time *Sabio de la terre firme*, and at this day is, *Sabio Grande*, one of the foure Iudges, commissioners allotted for this circuite. The said *Quirini* reporting to the Senate what he had heard concerning his accusations, and what also was testified in his defence, said, *That he not only found this man innocent and guiltlesse of the crimes laid to his charge, but thought him generally to haue liued a harmelesse life.* This sentence was well approued and allowed by the Senators: & assoone as it was published, which was in the beginning of the yere 1599. they freed the king from the dungion where he lay before, and placed him in a more fauourable prison, a place of some libertie. You shall reade hereafter the paines and punishment *Dom Sebastian* the King my maister indured sithence his misaduenture in Africke, vntill the day of his manifestation to the world. I beseech you hold me excused, though I satisfie you not so plentifully and so orderly as you expect or desire: it is all I could learne, and it is hard to gather so much in these parts, where the truth hath bene so ingeniously laboured to be suppressed and smoothered: beside, the great hazard of my person in trauelling to obtaine this litle, assuring you that our hope withers not, but springs dayly, to see my Lord *Dom Sebastian* to be as absolute King of Portugale, as it is iustly due vnto him by the law of God and nations: then shall my pen trample vpon the vale of tyrannie and oppression, that now so imperiously curbes poore patience and equitie.

Seeing God hath hitherto bene both his lampe and shield, to lighten and guard him, through so many darke and dangerous ambushments: why should we not be assured that he that can hath a purpose to make vs reioyce and wonder as much at his aduancement and dignitie, as his poore friends and seruants are grieued and dismayed with his fall and miserie: hoping all Christian, magnificent, and maiesticall Princes will ioyne in intercession to the Almightie, to restore my poore (yet princely Maister) from his wofull impisonment, to his Crowne and libertie,

A Declaration.

NOw it is requiſite, that I report vnto you ſomewhat concerning the ring, that hath bene ſo famous throughout the world, and of the rare vertues it was eſteemed for: and ſo forward to handle other matters, whereof ſome make for his purpoſe, and other ſome as much for his hinderance.

You haue heard (gentle Reader) of one that ſhewed this King a ring, &c. thus it happened. As ſoone as he was come to Venice, there was warning giuē to the goldſmiths, both by him ſelfe and ſome other of his friends, that he was robbed of certaine peeces of gold and iewels at Rome: then he gaue them the markes and tokens; deſiring them, that if any ſuch came into their hands by chaunce, they would make ſtay of them, vntill he, or ſome for him, came to chalenge them. Not long after, a goldſmith lighted vpon a ring of gold, wherein was grauen the Armes of Portugale: which ring he preſently brought to *Monſieur Ieronimo*, of whom you haue read before, an inhabitant of the ſame towne, who was ioyntly apprehended with the King for lodging in his houſe, and was not deliuered vntill fiue houres after the King was ſet at libertie. *Ieronimo* tooke the ring and brought it ſecretly to the King, lodging priuily in his houſe. Aſſoone as the King beheld the ring, he ſaid; This ring is none of mine, but it belongs to *D. Anthony* my coſin. This relation I had from *Ieronimo* himſelfe at Venice, in the preſence of many witneſſes, and how the goldſmith happened to get this ring. In Moran an Iland ſome halfe league from Venice, there is an Abbot called *Capelo*, a gentleman of Venice, a graue perſonage, and of great authoritie, hearing that the King laid waite for certaine iewels that he had loſt, hoping thereby to recouer ſome of them; hauing a diamond in his keeping, with the armes of Portugale, came to the towne to the conuenticles of *S. Francis*, called Frari, where the King lay concealed, for that he was purſued by ſome that meant him no good; who no ſooner beheld the ring, but he ſaid: Verily this is mine; and I either loſt the ſame in Flanders, or elſe it was ſtolne from me. And when the

King

King had put it vpon his finger, it appeared otherwise ingrauen then before. The Abbot inquiring of him that brought him the ring, how he came by it: he answered, It is true that the King hath said. Therehence arose a strange rumour of a ring, that by turning the stone you might discerne three great letters engrauen: *S. R. P.* that is as much to say: *Sebastianus Rex Portugalliæ.* Ignorant people not cõceiuing aright of the thing, raised thereupon such rumours, as their owne imaginations could gather: and at all times, so often as the Abbot shewed the ring to the King, he had many witnesses to testifie the same. I soiourned three weekes in the same Ile, very neare the Abbots house, after this had past.

To the second point: although the King were leane and weake by reason of his trauell and troubles, as it is like he could not be so strong and puissant as he was when he raigned in Portugale, being there full fed and corpulent: yet in Padua in the house of *D. Prospero Baracco*, he was seene to lift vp two men at once with great facilitie, one of the which was called *Pasquino Morosini*, the other *Bernardino Santi*; both these together (putting his arme betweene their legs) he heaued from the ground, without straining or wrenching in the view of many. He did the like in the Ile of Moran to two other, the one called *Ieronimo Calegari*, the other *Pascalino Calegari*; and there was present the Archbishop of Spalato at the like performance of his puissance with other men of qualitie: and this *Pasquilino* was a man both tall and corpulent. A Venetian gentleman of the house wherein the the King was prisoner, oftentimes took occasion to scoffe at the king, saying: It was impossible he should be the person he reported himself to be, with other geering frumpes: whereto the King said earnestly: Sir, I pray you tell me the reason of your incredulitie, and whereupon it is grounded: and *Molina* answered: Because I haue heard it often reported, that the King *Dom Sebastian* was a lusty strong man, of power to pul a horse-shooe in sunder with his hands, and able to tire sixe horses in an houre; and you are but a spare poore megar shrimpe, and a gristle in respect of such a one, and scarcely able to teare foure cards asunder, if they be well ioyned together, nor like to tire one horse in

an houre. Well, ſaid the King, if force will prooue me to be *Dom Sebaſtian*, &c. and the matter reſt onely vpon that, it may be that one day I may ſatisfie you in that point. So long this gallãt continued in his former geering and railing, that one day aboue the reſt, he moued the Kings patience, and made him angrie, and conſtrained him to ſhew him by the force of his hands, that he was *Dom Sebaſtian*, &c. and made him confeſſe the ſame: for being in a rage he came vpon him directly, and tooke him by the girdle with his right hand, and heauing him higher thẽ his head, caried him round about the priſon in that manner, to the great admiration of all that beheld it: and this Gentleman neuer after durſt abuſe him any more, but vſed him with the honour and reuerence that was due vnto him. In like manner, he tooke vp in the ſame priſon by the girdle one *Gaſparo Turloni* (a Gentleman of Venice) with his right hand, and *Baptiſte Marſoto* with his left hand, and lifted them both vp from the ground at one time. He alſo in the ſame priſon tooke vp (putting his arme betweene their legges) two other Gentlemen, one very groſſe and corpulent (namely *Meſſier Lucio de Meſſine*, and *Alexander de Alexandria*) and lifted them both of a good height: the oportunitie of this Gentleman made him do it in priſon: and at Padua, and at Moran he was diſpoſed to ſhew his force, to pleaſure his friends thereby. That which before was ſpoken of the ring, and of his forces, were the two things I thought neceſſarie firſt to giue you notice of.

To ad to the two firſt two other. In Venice there is a rich and an honourable merchant, who hearing of this King, what marks and tokens he had on his bodie, and what he had ſaid and done, tooke occaſion to go to him, and made meanes to deſerue his loue and amitie, by the performance of many kind offices towards him. This merchant was a Piemontoiſe by nation, by name called *Monſieur Iohn Baſſaneſſe*, and his mother being a widow maried after to one *Bartholomeo Verneti*, a Piemontoiſe borne alſo: who often vſed to checke and reprooue his ſonne in law for going ſo much to the King, ſaying, he was an impoſtor and a counterfeit: and his ſon in law boldly defended the King, by all the meanes and reaſons he could deuiſe. During this contention

tention betwixt the father and the ſon in law, the old man ſaid; Come hither, heare me: *Emanuel Philibert* Duke of Sauoy, ſent an Ambaſſador to *Dom Sebaſtian* king of Portugal his nephew, ſonne to his coſin germaine, which Ambaſſador brought him a preſent; and returned backe againe from the ſaid King with anſwer; and another preſent from the King to the Duke, the Ambaſſadors name was *Dominico Belli*, whoſe ſeruant I was at that very inſtant, by meanes whereof I ſaw and was priuie to all the parcels, and placed them my ſelfe in the casket, and likewiſe ſaw aduiſedly what was returned from the King. Now ſir, if you can perſwade that man that ſays he is *D. Sebaſtiã*, &c. to tel me what parcels thoſe were (that were ſent to and fro) directly, you ſhall bring me to be of your mind, and to confeſſe that he is the very ſame man he nominates himſelfe to be. *Iohn Baſſaneſſe* hearing theſe words, bethought himſelfe which way he might come to haue conference with the King, to vnderſtand the right of this matter, & as he was ſtudying how to bring his purpoſe about, he dreamed of a ſtratageme which ſhould effect his deſigne, which was, that he wold perpetrate ſome light crime, in hope therfore to be cõmitted to the priſon, where the king was: wherupõ he reſolued to take a cudgel vnder his cloake & go to the Realto, the chiefeſt place in Venice, and there quarel with one or other, and baſtinado him vntil he had drawn bloud of him, for which act he doubted not but to be committed: he proceeded according to his ſecret determination, and when he was come neare the Realto, he met with a friend of his, who perceiuing by his countenance, that he was troubled in mind, ſaid vnto him: Sir, I ſee by you there is ſomewhat amiſſe. *Iohn Baſſaneſſe* being wel aſſured, that he was a faithfull ſeruant to the King, laid open his intention vnto him, who found a meanes to get a note in writing vnder the kings hand of all the parcels, that paſſed from the one to the other. This memorandum was put into the hands of one *Leonardo Donato*, one of the *Sabio grande*, that firſt examined the King, and was thought to owe him litle good will, but after he ſurueyed his cauſe, and found it ſo iuſt & true, trauelled earneſtly to the Senate, to pronounce him *Dom Sebaſtian* the true king of Portugal. All this I haue heard confirmed by many very wor-

thy perſons: the originall I could not bring with me, for that *Doneto* at my being there was employed as Generall of fiue and twentie thouſand foote, and fiue thouſand horſe, in the countie of Bruſſe: which force the Siegniorie had leauied the yeare before, for their defence vpon ſome intelligence, &c. But as ſoone as *Iohn Baſſaneſſe* had got the writing, he hyed him home to his father in law, and they agreed betweene them, that one ſhould ſtand at one end of the table, and the other below; and the father wrote the peeces he knew, and the ſon by his note was able to informe the old man of diuers parcels that he had forgotten: and the old man ſaid it was haſt made him ouerſlip ſomewhat; thoſe foure white horſes (ſaid he) I did not well remember, but I thinke verily it was true: and the old man wondred not a little, how his ſonne came by this intelligence, and ſaid he had deuiſed it himſelfe: but ſeeing himſelfe vanquiſhed, ſaid to his ſonne: Viſit the King, my ſon, at your pleaſure, and do him what good you may, and I beſeeth God to aſſiſt him.

Foraſmuch as I know the curious ſort of people, deſire to view the particulars, and to make our proofe the more autentical, I haue here ſet thē down in order as they were inuentoried.

The parcels preſented by the Duke to the King.

A caſe full of ſilkes, of diuers colours.

Another full of cloth of ſiluer, of diuers ſorts and colours.

Another full of cloth of gold, of diuers colours.

A diamond ſet in a ring.

An auncient garment of very great value, being a trophe, taken from the French at *S. Quintaines*, embrodered & garniſhed about the necke with many iewels, foure white horſes which the old man had forgotten, and diuers other peeces not named.

Theſe parcels that were ſent from the King to the Duke.

A great chaine of gold of very good value: two peutrils, two bits, two paire of ſtirops, all garniſhed with diamonds, rubies, and other ſtones of great price.

One diamond ſet in gold, which *Bartholomeo Veneti* ſaid was as big as the naile of his right thombe.

Many Eaſt-Indian diſhes of ſundrie colours, with other rich things of good eſteeme.

For

For the second of the last prooſes, being the fourth and last, you ſhall vnderſtand that there be foure merchants at Venice, men indued with wealth, honour, eſtimation, and charitie, that in my hearing haue named theſe foure witneſſes *Barnaba Rizzo*, *Iean Baſſaneſſe*, *Conſtantin Nicoli*, who keeps in his hand the original letter of *D. Raimond Marquets*, by which it is manifeſt that *D. Sebaſtian* is one man, and *Marco Tullio Catizzone* another: which letter he ſhewed publickely at *S. Markes*, to conuince the falſhood of the Caſtilians, and their adherents: for the which and ſuch other like ſeruices, the Spaniards could not be appeaſed without reuenge. The nineteenth of October, I had intelligence by letters, that one came into this honeſt mans ſhop, his ſeruants being ſent all out of the way, and cut him on the head with a curtelaxe, and in diuers other places ſo dangerouſly, that he was in great perill of his life. The malefactor eſcaped vnknowne. The fourth and laſt is called *Baptiſte Dolphine*, and theſe foure haue bene euer good friends to the King, both by entertaining him and trauelling in his affaires, to the vtterꝛoſt of their power, to ſet him at libertie, without intermiſſion of any minute of oportunitie, that might be ſpent in his profitable ſeruice. But the Caſtilian Agents conſidering and knowing the zeale of theſe perſonages, and obſeruing their conſtancie, that both with all their might and maine, defended the cauſe of the King my maiſter: ſeeing that neither faire promiſes, perſwaſions, nor threatnings, could make them deſiſt from their vowed fidelitie and aſſiſtance, entred into this diuelliſh practiſe. Firſt they beganne to publiſh theſe witneſſes to be fooles, coſiners, and rogues, and perſwaded certaine bankers and brokers to lay wagers with them, that the priſoner was not *Dom Sebaſtian* the King: aſſuring them that they might offer to giue a thouſand for one, if euer it were prooued or publiſhed; for that they knew aſſuredly, that he was a Calabrian, a Sodomite, a theefe, a coſiner, and a counterfeit, and that ere long they ſhould ſee him hanged vpon one of the pillars of *S. Markes* Church. Theſe vſurers beleeuing this to be true, and deſirous to make gaine of any thing, beganne to enter into the courſe of laying wagers, as the Caſtilians had aduiſed them. The witneſſes hearing they

offered so frankly a thousand for one, if the prisoner were iudged to be *Dom Sebastian*, &c. knowing certainly that it was her beleeuing that the Senate, in regard of such especiall markes, tokens, and proofes, would not refuse to publish him, what they had found him: were easily drawne to bargaine with these bankers, to some of the which, the simple and honest men gaue out twentie, some thirtie, some fiftie, some ten, some fiue crownes, in hope to be paid a thousand for one: so that they had giuen out some three hundred crownes or more; and shortly after they found out the wrong and hindrance they had done to the poore Kings cause, by their mony, they begun to repent themselues exceedingly of their folly: the account was cast, that the repaiment would amount to three hundred thousand crownes. And the bankers seeing themselues ingaged for so great a sum of monie; and if the Senate should chance to publish that which they knew to be true, that they were like to be stripped of the greatest part of their substance, began to complot and oppose themselues to counterchecke the truth, which fell out to be a great preiudice and barre to the King my maisters cause; for that many chiefe men, and the factors of many principall houses, were interested in this hazard of indemnitie: as those of the house of *Affrori, Caponi, Bagliani, Lubin, Iacobo Begin, Antonio Simone, Pietro Tobon, Bastian Guarinoni*, and many others of their parents and allies, for their sakes: among which were diuers that bare office in the common-weale, as *Iacobo Fusturini* a procdor in S. *Marke*, that was euer enemie to the King my maister. In the end this diuelish inuention, and Castilian pernicious pollicie, wrought so much woe, and multiplied our enemies infinitely: for it was so commonly knowne and spoken, that little children as they went for mustard, would say, that this was the principall cause why the Senators would haue had *Dom Sebastian* say, he was not *Dom Sebastian* but a Calabrian, and they promised straight to set him at liberty; and not that fauour alone, but they would do what else for him, he could or would require. Whereupon he wrote a letter to the Pope, complaining bitterly vpon the Senators of Venice, for requiring at his hands so vniust a thing, to whom he declared in his letter, that he an-

swered

sweared them, that he had rather die a tortured death, then confesse so palpable an vntruth, to gaine an ignominious life and libertie: O that it were possible for me to speake all that is true in this case! but I must let passe infinite iniuries, least the reuealing all might rather aggrauate then relieue my maisters miserie. If I durst, this discourse should haue bene more ample, and better vnderstood, if it were lawful that I might say what I could say, that the Monarchs and Princes of Christendome, haue done the King my Lord secretly and openly much good and ill, and are vnwilling either of both should be manifested to the world in writing. Notwithstanding I will neuer burie in silence an answer that a grand Sabio of this commonwealth made to a magnificent Prince in Europe, of great vnderstanding, but of no great antiquitie. This *Sabio* going to visite this Prince, was intreated by him to tell him what ground the Seigniorie of Venice had, to proceed vpon the prisoner in that forme, which called himselfe *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugale? for (said he) if they found him to be a Calabrian, why did they set him at libertie without chastisement? And if it were verified vnto them by good proofes and euidence that he was *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugal, why did they vse him in that maner? The grand *Sabio* publikely made this answer in the presence of many. Sir, forasmuch as the affaires concerned the estate of Spaine, the Seigniorie would not presume to iudge whether it was he or not. This man was committed for disobeying a commaundement the Seigniorie laid vpon him, and therefore restrained two yeares of his libertie, to the end he might repent him of his fault, and after the expiration of two yeares againe dismissed him vpon the like commaundement. And to be plaine with your Excellencie: the man would follow no good aduice, but was wilfull, turbulent, and of ill gouernement, by which meanes much ill is come vnto him. That word ill aduised, might haue bene well interpreted, for that he would not denie himselfe to be that which vndoubtedly he was. It was not my fortune to be present at this act, being elsewhere employed out of those parts: but at my returne it was related to me, by a learned person that was there in present; which afterward the same Prince himselfe

did notifie unto me, affuring me that the anſwer of that *Sabio* grand, did verily induce him to beleeue, that that priſoner was *Dom Sebaſtian* the very true King of Portugale: for if the Seignior had held this man to be a Calabrian, ſaid this Prince, to what purpoſe did the *Sabio* hold me with ſuch a long diſcourſe publickely, conſidering he knew the priuitie of the affaires, if he had bene proued a Calabrian, it had bene ſufficient to haue ſaid in a word, Sir, he was a Calabrian, an impoſtor, and a coſiner, without any more ado. But you ſee how the world fares, and how it fwayes abruptely, and ſo ends my pitifull narration, admiring, intreating, and conjuring you (gentle Reader) to ſhun the ſnares and traps of theſe ſubtill enemies: for I can affure you, by the aſſiſtance of a good conſcience, that they be thoſe three *Chryſoſtome* cals the Phariſes, *Qui portabant mel in ore, fel in corde*: they will ſlap you in the mouth with honie, which when you begin to chew, perhaps you ſhall find ſome ſweete, but in the digeſtion, you ſhall find it moſt bitter in operation.

Farewell.

FINIS.

BRITISH MUSEUM 21 JY 1919